

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
April 26, 2006**

Call to Order

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., in the Harbor High School Library, 300 La Fonda Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

John Collins	Rachel Dewey Thorsett	Bruce Neustadter	Felix Robles
Mick Routh	Ken Wagman	Tim Willis	
Student: Bailey McElhinney			

Alan Pagano, Superintendent
Tanya Krause, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dick Moss, Assistant Superintendent, Business
Ralph Porras, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
Members of the Audience

Agenda Changes

Superintendent Pagano asked for two additions to the Consent Agenda - Consent Agenda Item 1.2, Personnel Actions – Certificated - #c Resignation; and Item 1.11, Consultant Service Agreement.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Westlake Teachers reported that Common Planning Time is for: grade level meetings; grant writing; differentiated instruction; planning of extracurricular activities; entering assessments into the computer system. The teachers asked the Board Members to direct the Negotiating Team to reinstate Common Planning Time. A substitute teacher asked the Trustees to increase the daily pay rate for substitute teachers. Gault parents reported concern that detailed information regarding kindergarten and first grade program changes has not yet been made available and the closing date for the open enrollment period is imminent. The Site Council site plans do not indicate any significant program changes, or money to address changes. The parents asked for Trustee intervention in this process. Ms. Morgenstern reported California Star Testing has begun at the schools, and the sites are doing a commendable job. Secondary sites are making a concentrated effort to engage students in both participation and serious application during this testing period. Dr. Logsdon advised the Trustees regarding the increase of newspaper letters to the Editor regarding differences at Westlake and Gault schools. Representatives from the Santa Cruz Education Foundation, and Bay View, Gault, Westlake, and Mission Hill Site Councils brought a petition to the Board Members with 279 signatures supporting class size reduction in grades 4 through 8. A speaker asked SCCS to provide a clearer understanding of what quality education for “all students” means. Gault Principal James reported the Open House was well attended – and invited Trustees and all community members to the Ice Cream Social and Auction on April 29th. Ms. Hamilton corrected some statements made by the Gault parents defining bilingual education programs, and noted that instructional program is not an area where parents participate in decision-making. Gault Parent Ruiz noted that although many families at Gault are bilingual – the issue is not “understanding” English – it is being academically successful in English.

AGENDA ITEM:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pagano reported he was honored to attend the meeting and discussion at the New Teacher Center for induction. The County Superintendent/Board President Committee continues to meet, and is a benefit to all who participate. The Superintendent has met with the Site Councils from Gault, DeLaveaga, and Westlake schools, and will hopefully meet with Bay View and the secondary schools before the spring is over. The Superintendent sent the Board Policy and Administrative Release regarding the administrator hiring process to legal counsel for review. The District has compiled needs assessment based on Special Education Staff recommendations for the Director of Special Education, and also invited a response from the Leadership Team. Mr. Pagano asked for help from the Trustees in three areas:

1. Current policy states the Board may select a representative to participate in the paper screening of applicants – does the Board choose to do this? BOARD RESPONSE – NO
2. The Board may choose as a whole to interview applicants that the Superintendent recommends – does the Board choose to do this? BOARD RESPONSE – NO
3. Would the Board Members like a list of the Interview Panel? BOARD RESPONSE – YES

Superintendent Pagano asked Mr. Moss to introduce Harriet Lacey, the new Director of Finance. Mr. Moss reported this position would be ratified in the Consent Agenda. Ms. Lacey comes to SCCS with 17 years of school finance experience – most recently from Lake Tahoe, and including 12 years at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Ms. McElhinney reported that Soquel High School will host a fundraiser for the Music Department through a Calamari Feed/Silent Auction on May 6. There are still spaces left for the Golf Tournament Fundraiser on May 12. The International Kids Olympic Track Event was held today, and was well attended.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Wagman attended the Bay View Festival of the Arts on April 22, and it was a pleasure to see the student work and performances, parent support in action, and teachers who are wonderful artists and musicians. President Wagman asked the Trustees to CONSIDER appointments for the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Trustee Willis noted that, while it is always good to hear from the public, the issues of substitute pay rates and common planning time must be handled through negotiations. Mr. Willis reported that he is glad to see class size reduction move from an issue involving Mission Hill Middle School to one including elementary schools as well. Regarding the letters to the editor at the Santa Cruz Sentinel – the charge of the Board of Education in 2003 was to reconfigure neighborhood schools. When segregation is discussed, it is important to look at neighborhoods, not schools. The District needs to move toward assigning teachers with the greatest skills to teach children with the greatest needs. At Watsonville High School API scores have increased – yet the WASC Committee supports improving student learning – not standardized test scores. The Federal Government is asking schools to do what the WASC Committee understands is meaningless.

Board Member Collins congratulated the District High School Seniors on their accomplishments and college acceptances – public education is working pretty well for lots of students. Mr. Collins indicated he supports class size reduction. The Superintendent/Board President Committee has formed five Task Forces: Teacher Housing; Countywide Sales Tax; Preschool; Public Relations for Success; Legislated Advocacy. Would the Trustees prefer that Trustee Collins continue on this committee, or should this position be offered to someone else? The Board approved Mr. Collins to continue in this capacity. The next all-county Board Meeting is at the end of June – and on May 4 the SCCOE Board of Supervisors will host a Senate Education Committee budget discussion on the 5th floor, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett did not attend any meetings this past week. In regards to Gault School, Ms. Dewey Thorsett requested a staff report on the different language programs that currently exist and a description of each curriculum. The Superintendent will provide this information.

Board Member Robles strongly feels the district is providing quality education to children. The last three years have brought the involvement of all stakeholders into district processes – and unity is necessary to provide more opportunities for all students. Mr. Robles thanked Ms. Hamilton for providing clarity on some of the public comments. Trustee Robles noted that Jose Gonzalez was a major factor in the soccer victory yesterday, and Mr. Robles was very proud that he could play. Board Member Robles has met with multiple groups of students and parents, and feels that students want comprehensive programs and academic rigor to be maintained.

Trustee Neustadter attended the New Teacher Center for Induction gathering, and this was a great opportunity to meet with people from education in other states. There are large differences between states regarding Special Education encroachments and reimbursements, and health benefits. Mr. Neustadter thanked all Site Council Representatives who spoke tonight regarding class size reduction. Trustee Neustadter supports class size reduction – tempered with the fact that there must be an equitable distribution of resources. Mr. Neustadter pledged to read all of the class size reduction petitions. Delta school will graduate 16 students this year, and all have passed the CAHSEE and Algebra requirements.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 5, 2006; Personnel Actions – *Certificated* (Ex. 134); Personnel Actions – *Classified* (Ex. 135); Contract Extension for Strategic Construction Management (Ex. 136); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids; Change Orders (Ex. 137); Warrant Register Batches 262-277; Resolution #31-05-06 District Signature Authorization (Ex. 138); Resolution #32-05-06 Authorizing 2006-07 Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRAN) (Ex. 139); Lease Financing for Purchase of Buses & Mowers (Ex. 140); Consultant Service Agreement (Ex. 141). Mr. Willis seconded the motion. After a clarifying question from President Wagman and a response from Mr. Moss, this motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

<u>Roll Call Vote</u>	Collins – Yes	Dewey Thorsett – Yes	Neustadter – Yes
	Robles – Yes	Routh – Yes	Wagman – Yes
			Willis – Yes
	Student McElhinney – Yes		

STAFF REPORT

Status of Corrective Action on 2004-05 Audit Findings

Mr. Moss reported the Board asked for periodic reports on the status of responding to the Findings and Recommendations in the Audit. The District's legal counsel filed an appeal to the Education Audits Appeal Panel (EAAP) on 3/1/06, audit-finding 05-28, the ARK Independent Study contract form. EAAP Executive Officer John Gilroy will hear the appeal first at the informal level before it goes to the EAAP. On 2/22/06, the Board approved a Waiver Request to the State Board of Education (SBE) that addresses audit findings 05-32, 05-41, and 05-42 related to Monarch's instructional minutes shortfall. The waiver will be on the 5/10/06 SBE agenda. Monarch has adjusted their 05-06 bell schedules to meet the minimum minutes. The California Department of Education (CDE) has informed the District that approval of the waiver for the Monarch instructional minutes shortfall in 2004-05 will require Monarch to offer four additional days of instruction in 2006-07 and 2007-08 to make up for the minimum days that were less than the minimum required minutes in 2004-05. SCCS will continue to work on these audit findings, and Mr. Moss will continue to update the Trustees.

OLD BUSINESS

New Classified Job Descriptions – 2nd Reading

Ms. Krause recommended the job descriptions for the Accounting Technician I & II, Lead Food Service Worker, Personnel Technician I & II, and Resource Center Technician be approved for second reading and forwarded to the Personnel Commission for final approval. The Board approved the first reading of these job descriptions at the November 21, 2005 Board Meeting. SCCCE President Chacanaca also approves these job descriptions. **Public Comments:** None. MSP (Neustadter/Routh) 7-0, these job descriptions were approved for second reading and forwarded to the Personnel Commission for final approval. Student McElhinney – Yes (Ex. 142)

Approve 2006-07 Zero Based Budgets

Mr. Moss asked the Board Members to approve the Zero Based Budgets as presented at the April 19 Board Meeting, as adjusted. As adjusted means: Middle School Changes that were presented at the April 19 meeting. New Change: Elementary Schools will increase Clerical Assistant and Health Assistant, but not to 10 month positions. The budgeted dollar increase will be used for extra hours when needed most. Employees agree this would provide more flexibility within the positions. Board Member Neustadter encouraged a language change in this document – Cafeteria Funds are called an encroachment. We must change our vision in the future – feeding our children is not an encroachment. Superintendent Pagano reported that when this item comes back for approval on 6/21, the language change could be in place. **Public Comments:** None. After additional discussion and questions from the Board Members, MSP (Collins/Neustadter) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the 2006-07 Zero Based Budgets. (Ex. 143)

**** Mr. Robles left the meeting at this time – approximately 8:00 p.m.**

NEW BUSINESS

Closed Session Action Report (Mr. Routh was not in attendance)

The Board approved a stipulated expulsion for Student 10-05-06 through January 2007
The Board admitted Student 19-04-05 in Fall, 2006 for the 2006-07 school year
The Board approved the recommendation not to readmit Student 02-04-05
Board received information regarding an Unrepresented Employee Contract

Approve 2005-06 Five-Year Deferred Maintenance Plan

Mr. Moss reported each year the District receives Deferred Maintenance Funds from the State. The State matches the District's contribution up to .5% of total General Fund expenditures. The State requires that this plan be Board-approved before being approved by the State Allocation Board to qualify for State matching funds. Deferred Maintenance funds can only be spent on building maintenance projects that meet the State criteria. MSP (Collins/Neustadter) 6-0, the Board approved the 2005-06 Five Year Deferred Maintenance Plan. Student McElhinney – Yes (Ex. 144)

Approve Allocation of Additional Bond Funds - Bay View

Mr. Moss asked the Trustees to approve allocation of an additional \$60,000 in Mod II Bond funds to Bay View out of Elementary Escalation Reserve. This allocation would reduce the Elementary Escalation Reserve to \$288,834. MSP (Routh/Dewey) 6-0, the Board approved the Allocation of Additional Bond Funds to Bay View.

Resolution #30-05-06 Layoff/Reduction of Hours/Months in Classified Service

Ms. Krause reported these classified layoff/reductions are funded primarily through categorical and/or grant funding, and are submitted in order to meet 2006-07 budget reductions, necessitated by lack of work or lack of funding. SCCS will follow the procedures outlined in SCCCE Contract and the current Personnel Commission Rules and Regulations, and follow the timelines and procedures outlined in those documents. With the passing of this Resolution, layoff and reduction of hours notices will be sent, employees bumping rights will be exercised and negotiating the effects of these decisions will take place. Mr. Neustadter moved approval of this Resolution, and Mr. Collins seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 145)

Roll Call Vote Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Neustadter – Yes
Routh – Yes Wagman – Yes Willis – Yes Student McElhinney – Yes

New Classified Job Descriptions – 1st Reading

Ms. Krause recommended that the job descriptions for the classifications of Senior Accountant and District Assessment Specialist be approved for the first reading and forwarded to the Personnel Commission for recommendation of employment standards and salary schedule placement. MSP (Routh/Dewey Thorsett) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the first reading of these new Classified job descriptions. Student McElhinney – Abstain

New Certificated Job Descriptions – 1st Reading

Ms. Krause reported that the job descriptions for the classifications of English Learner Instructional Resource Teacher and District Professional Development Coordinator be approved for first reading. Long-range planning for the District includes the addition of two certificated positions to better support English language learners. The Educational Services and Human Resources departments have met with the GSCFT to discuss these draft job descriptions. Ms. Krause noted, that although this is a 1st reading, if there are no amendments these positions could receive final approval this evening. However, if the Trustees have suggestions, changes would be made and the positions would be brought back at a later date for final approval. The Board of Education elected to make motions and vote separately on each job description.

- Other distribution as defined by MOUs and Joint Use Agreements, and
- Distribution timeline and procedures

MSP (Collins/Neustadter) 6-0, the Board of Education approved Policy & AR Revision: 1325 Community Relations Advertising and Distribution of Materials.

Resolution #34-05-06 Adoption of Health Textbook & Supplemental Materials

Ms. Tong reported that as part of the implementation of the new health framework, Student Services is requesting a new health text and supporting materials, to be adopted for use. The materials would be used for instruction with students in grades 9 through 12. Mr. Routh moved approval, and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded this motion. The motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 147)

Roll Call Vote Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Neustadter – Yes
 Routh – Yes Wagman – Yes Willis – Yes Student McElhinney – Yes

Resolution #35-05-06 Standards Based Textbooks & Instruction Materials Adoption in History/Social Science for Grades 6-8

Ms. Morgenstern reported all textbooks and instructional materials in this adoption are based on California Content Standards, and received unanimous endorsement from the Selection Committee. Mr. Neustadter moved approval, and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded this motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 148)

Roll Call Vote Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Neustadter – Yes
 Routh – Yes Wagman – Yes Willis – Yes Student McElhinney – Yes

Resolution #36-05-06 Standards Based Textbooks & Instruction Materials Adoption in History/Social Science for Grades 9-12

Ms. Morgenstern reported this material is recommended for district wide adoption in comprehensive and small high schools. All teacher pilot materials have been compiled and reviewed by the Office of Curriculum and evaluated in collaboration with the Selection Committee. Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval, and Mr. Neustadter seconded this motion. This motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 149)

Roll Call Vote Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Neustadter – Yes
 Routh – Yes Wagman – Yes Willis – Yes Student McElhinney – Yes

INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS

Future Meetings

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 6:00 p.m. at the Branciforte Small Schools Campus, 840 N. Branciforte Ave., Santa Cruz, CA. On May 24, 2006, the Board of Education will meet at the Harbor High School Library, 6:00 P.M., 300 La Fonda, Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent
 Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken Wagman, President
 Board of Education

