

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
January 25, 2006**

Call to Order

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:18 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Room, Westlake Elementary School, 1000 High St., Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

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

Welcome & Format

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

Agenda Changes

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Ken Miller reported on the Staff In-Service concerning Digital Storytelling, and offered a video presentation of information on Westlake School. Mr. Miller reported that Westlake School has offered Pre School and Pre-K classes for 2 years. Ms. Hamilton provided Board Members with a small packet of information explaining a series of educational opportunities designed to give Spanish-speaking parents a greater understanding of how to advocate for equal access and opportunity for their students. Ms. Morgenstern reported on a meaningful opportunity regarding Secondary Access Language Tools (SALT) – tools to help teachers reach students who are not at grade level reading ability and ensure achievement. Bay View Parents asked the Trustees to lend support to move forward with the 4th graders trip to Sacramento, and the 5th graders participation in Outdoor Science Camp; to offer Chinese as a language choice for SCCS high school students; and to consider using potential revenue realized through the Elementary District Basic Aid status to offer Class Size Reduction in grades 4 & 5. Parent Jessica Corona currently has a transfer student enrolled in the Dual Immersion Program – and asked the Trustees to consider honoring the enrollments of younger siblings, to avoid creating hardships within families.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pagano thanked Principal Miller and the Westlake Staff for both hosting the evening's meeting, and for the presentations. The Superintendent enjoyed the Title III Conference meeting attended on January 10th, and looks forward to the February meeting as well. Mr. Pagano acknowledged the generous SCCS community and the district gifts received since the January 9th meeting totaling over \$23,000. The Silicon

Valley Roundtable Outreach Program that is supporting kindergarten students and parents at Gault Elementary School looks forward to providing guaranteed admissions to community, state, and UC programs for these students. Superintendent Pagano and Mr. Collins will both serve on the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce Board this year. Under the direction of COE Superintendent Diane Siri, Mr. Collins and Mr. Pagano met with the organization that wants to annex Soquel. Mr. Pagano will participate in a Superintendent's Symposium in Monterey this week.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Mr. Porras introduced the new Student Representative, Ms. Bailey McElhinney. Ms. McElhinney is the Senior Class President and a Site Council Member at Soquel High School. She reported on the Open House at Soquel High School on January 7, and the February 15 Open House that will be offered for Latino families. Costanoa School has a Student Leadership Class with 20 students this year. This site will host their first school-sponsored dance this year, and are having a multicultural activity in March 2006. Students are unhappy with the lunch program this year, and feel that last year better food was offered for less money.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Wagman welcomed Ms. McElhinney to the Board of Trustees, and thanked Principal Miller and the Westlake staff for hosting this meeting. President Wagman reported on the receipt of a letter from the County Office of Education announcing a positive certification for SCCS for 2005-06. Trustee Collins and President Wagman will attend an Education Conference in Palo Alto on January 28.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS

Board Member Willis is eager to return to Sacramento in March as part of the SCCS Leadership Team. Mr. Willis supports Class Size Reduction in all grades. Trustee Willis concluded his report with a wish for success to Ms. McElhinney.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett welcomed Student McElhinney to the Board of Trustees. Ms. Dewey Thorsett reported the following: a tour of DeLaveaga Elementary; anticipation of better experiences regarding food on campuses; hope for additional Class Size Reduction; restoration of Outdoor Science Camp and other field trips; working to move away from fundraising for sports equipment; a wonderful experience observing 8th grade Science Projects – and the fun of seeing students enjoy hands on Science!

Trustee Neustadter visited both Harbor High School and Branciforte Middle School – he was very impressed with the energy and administration of Harbor High School Principal Tocchini and the wonderful 8th Grade Science Projects at the middle school. Board Member Neustadter feels very positive regarding the community expressing their budget concerns, and is impressed with school community outreach being used to address local needs. He also acknowledged how well the administrators at each school supported each other's programs.

Board Member Collins welcomed Student McElhinney to the Board of Education, and expressed gratitude for her efforts to include reports and information from school sites other than the school she attends. Trustee Collins recognized the Soquel High School Site Council for their use of electronic media, while keeping standard communications intact. Mr. Collins reported attendance at the County Board Meeting, and also the meeting with PUSH to discuss annexation of Soquel. Mr. Collins attended the Harbor

High School Grad Night Committee meeting and met with the Executive Director of the Monterey Bay Aquarium to discuss a Science Academy in this local area. Trustee Collins concluded by encouraging community members to attend BFAC meetings.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Willis moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2006; Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 76); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 77); Gifts; Special Education Contracts (Ex. 78); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 79); Change Orders for Construction Contracts (Ex. 80); Warrant Register Batches 168-181; Vocational Education Application – Carl D. Perkins; Consolidated Categorical Aid Program Application, Part II; Approve Contract for Santa Cruz High School Pool Architect (Ex. 81); Approve Contract with Legal Counsel for 2004-05 Audit Appeal (Ex. 82). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts: *Bay View Elementary* – Orion Telescopes has donated an Orion telescope valued at approximately \$270. *Branciforte Middle School* – Philippe Moutarlier & Ruth Selvidge have donated \$10,000 to be used to support students attending 6th grade science camp and other programs as needed. Linda Egan has donated \$600 to be distributed among specific teachers and \$200 of this money to be applied where needed. William Farlee and Saarin Schwartz have donated a computer to teacher Ron Pohlert, valued at approximately \$400. *Gault Elementary* – An anonymous donation of \$10,000 to hire a Spanish language teacher for the second semester was received. *Mission Hill Middle School* – Orion Telescopes has donated an Orion telescope valued at approximately \$270. *Branciforte Small Schools Campus – Ark School* – Orion Telescopes has donated an Orion telescope valued at approximately \$270. Alternative Family Education – Orion Telescopes has donated an Orion telescope valued at approximately \$270. *Soquel High School* - Steve Edwards has donated \$300. **Total value of gifts: \$22,380.** Mr. Collins seconded the motion for approval. This motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows:

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

STAFF REPORTS

Report on the 2006-07 Governor's Budget

Mr. Moss reported on the impact of the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2006-07 on the SCCS 2006-07 Budget. The COLA projection of 5.18% is higher than anticipated, and increased funds for Elementary District are \$91,416 – Secondary District increase is \$204,148. Additional equalization funding should add Elementary revenue of \$96,104, and Secondary revenue of \$187,106. Funding to reduce the Revenue Limit deficit from .892% to .299% would increase funds for Elementary by \$73,814, and Secondary by \$168,450. The current Basic Aid projection in the Elementary District is still above the Revenue Limit Projection, including the aforementioned additional funds – therefore, the Governor's Budget Proposal will not increase current projected Elementary funds. The following new programs are proposed:

- Arts & Music - \$20 per pupil with a minimum of \$5,000 per school
- PE programs - \$5,000 per school, plus competitive grants of \$25,000 to hire credentialed PE teachers
- Digital Classroom Grants – competitive grants (one-time) of \$3,000 per classroom (application process)

Mr. Moss concluded with the information that the Governor's 2006-07 Proposed Budget is deficit spending by \$6.4 billion that is covered out of the projected 2005-06 ending

balance. This budget is seen as an election year budget, and there is the potential for negative adjustments in 2007-08 if State revenues do not grow enough in 2007-08 to sustain the proposed 2006-07 levels of expenditures in 2007-08.

Bond Project Status Report

Mr. Moss presented the Bond Project Status Report to the Trustees. This included:
Financial Reports

1. Elementary and Secondary Bond Budget Summary
2. Summary of Revised Budgets by Site for Elementary and Secondary Bonds
3. Bond Budgets by Site by Project
4. Bond Budgets by Site

Other Reports

1. Allocation of Escalation Funds
2. Status of Bond Projects by Site
3. Status of Bond Projects Schedules

By the end of summer 2006, 98% of funds will be spent – the BOC will generate a report to the Board of Education and the Santa Cruz Community detailing how both time and money were utilized.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING: AB 1200 Cost Disclosure on 05-06 GSCFT Re-Opener Contract Agreements

Open: Board President Wagman opened this Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m. Mr. Moss reported that the GSCFT and SCCS reached a tentative agreement regarding the 2005-06 collective bargaining agreement re-opener on 12/20/05, and the GSCFT ratified this agreement on 1/10/06. The Board is required to make this tentative agreement available to the public, to publicly disclose its costs and to conduct a public hearing to receive public comments prior to approval of the agreement. The increased cost of the agreement (additional costs to last year's agreement) for 2005-06 is as follows:

- 1.5% salary increase retroactive to 7/1/05 \$374,000
- 2% one-time bonus contingent upon a successful appeal of the 2004-05 audit findings and penalties and restoration of a minimum equivalency of the cost of the 2% bonus to the budget \$498,667

Compensation increase is in addition to the 1% salary increase on 4/1/05 and the additional 1% salary schedule increase on 7/1/05.

Public Comments: Classified Employee Joan Lowe voiced support of this agreement. GSCFT Representative Barry Kirschen acknowledged the speed and diligence of the District to come to agreement with employees, and also reported a unanimous approval by members. BOC Member Dr. Jim Logsdon asked for a detailed explanation of the 2% one-time bonus, and Superintendent Pagano provided this explanation.

Close: Board President Wagman closed this Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m.

Ratification of Contract Agreement Between GSCFT and SCCS, 2005-06

Ms. Krause reported that on January 9, 2006, the Board of Education approved this tentative agreement, prior to ratification. The GSCFT membership has ratified this agreement, and the District recommends the Board ratify this contract. MSP

(Collins/Neustadter) 5-0, the Board approved the Ratification of the Contract Agreement Between GSCFT & SCCS, 2005-06. (Ex. 83)

Approve Reallocation of Elementary Bond Funds Between Sites

Mr. Moss recommended the approval of reallocation of remaining Elementary Phase II Bond funds between sites. On 12/15/05, the BOC approved this recommendation. The purpose of the reallocation is to be able to meet some critical infrastructure needs at Bay View and DeLaveaga beyond the funds currently available at these sites. The BOC prioritized the list of projects at all sites before making this recommendation. BOC also recommends that once projects are complete, if there are reserve funds, they should be returned to Gault and Westlake. Westlake Principal Miller stated that this was a great consensus project. MSP (Willis/Dewey Thorsett) 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Reallocation of Elementary Bond Funds Between Sites.

INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS

Future Meetings

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2006, 6:00 p.m., Room 312, District Office, 405 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA.

Closed Session Action Report

The Board held a hearing Re: Complaint Against an Identified Employee (Govt. Coe 54957)/ A decision was made by the Board and will be communicated in writing to the appropriate parties.

The Board heard an update on a Personnel issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken Wagman, President
Board of Education