

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY  
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS  
November 21, 2005**

**Call to Order**

Board President Collins called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., in the Community Room at DeLaveaga Elementary, 1145 Morrissey Blvd., Santa Cruz, CA.

**Attendance at Meeting**

John Collins	Bruce Neustadter	Mick Routh
Ken Wagman	Tim Willis	
<b>Absent:</b> Rachel Dewey Thorsett	Felix Robles	Student Amber Norfolk

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**

Board President Collins thanked Principal Freed for hosting this meeting, and welcomed those in attendance and explained the format used for this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

**Agenda Changes**

None

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

DeLaveaga Principal David Freed welcomed the Board Members and audience to the school, and spoke briefly regarding school activities and programs, including the Dragon Notes Mega Skills. This monthly assessment includes confidence, motivation, effort, responsibility, initiative, perseverance, caring, teamwork, common sense and problem solving. Mr. Freed introduced the Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade Dual Immersion students, who demonstrated the success of this program for the community and the Trustees through poetry and song. Santa Cruz High School Principal Karen Edmonds spoke to the many accomplishments of SCHS students, including athletic team GPA success at the local and state levels, academic decathlon achievements, and recognition for arts programs. Ms. Edmonds invited the Trustees to the latest theatrical production, *Romeo and Juliet*. SCEF President Cynthia Hawthorne reported that this organization received recognition from the State of California for the successful partnership with the District in helping fund class size reduction for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Recognition included an award, and a printed brochure outlining the successful strategy - which was distributed to all 550 Educational Foundations in the State of California. GSCFT Co-President Barry Kirschen reported on a workshop providing tools to redesign low performing schools in order to boost student achievement.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Pagano reported that the parcel tax measures were passed at close to 80%, and thanked all who participated in this successful campaign. Mr. Pagano reported on some upcoming dates: Special Board Meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup> at the District Office for the Board Members to begin the Self-Assessment process; and the last Regular Meeting of the 2005 calendar year on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., at Gault Elementary School. The Superintendent acknowledged how grateful he is to serve in this wonderful and caring community, and how thankful he is to be a part of the SCCS staff. Superintendent Pagano and the Board Members recognized key members of the Campaign Committee for Measures A & B with certificates acknowledging this successful program, and offered an "Apple Cider" toast to honor the SCCS students who are so well served by the passing of these parcel tax measures.

### **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Collins continues to be involved with Site Councils; visited SCHS Leadership Class; attended Harbor High Scholarship program; attended investiture of UCSC Chancellor and began a dialogue with the university on improving working relationship; worked on Measures A & B; acknowledged the hard work of all advisory committees, including BOC, BFAC, and FAC; expressed gratitude for the passage of Measures A & B – and the recognition by the citizens that the district is well operated. President Collins concluded his report by mentioning the important work of the Ad Hoc Board Presidents' and Superintendents' Committee. This countywide organization encourages collaboration among districts, and the opportunity to work together to achieve success for students. The Board approved Mr. Collins to continue his representation of SCCS in this regard until July 2006.

### **BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS**

Board Member Routh reported that Branciforte Middle School is having a Turkey Trot and Pie Eating Contest on Wednesday, November 22. This site is also looking for a volunteer to help with the Chess Club during the lunch breaks.

Board Member Neustadter thanked Gault Principal James for both the tour of the school, and the opportunity to serve lunch to students at this site. Mr. Neustadter also thanked all those who worked so hard to ensure the success of Measures A & B in the recent campaign.

Board Member Wagman extended his gratitude to all those who served this community through their efforts to pass the parcel tax measures. It was inspirational to see staff and community members giving so much of themselves for our students, a reminder of the importance of the work at hand. Mr. Wagman attended a BFAC meeting, and also thanked Principal Munro for the tour of Branciforte Middle School.

Board Member Willis reported his faith in the election process has been somewhat restored, and continues to be hopeful that the Governor will provide promised funding. Mr. Willis is grateful for the 7-year terms of the newly passed tax measures, as this

allows maximum concentration on student programs and achievements for the next several years.

## GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

### Consent Agenda

Superintendent Pagano noted that the minutes submitted for approval would be amended to correct the Superintendent's Report and also make corrections regarding the "Moved for Approval" and "Recorded Votes" for Item **State Ballots – November 8, 2005 Special Election, Items (a), (b), & (c)**. Mr. Willis moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 26, 2005 (amended); Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 51); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 52); Gifts; Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 53); Change Orders for Construction Contracts (Ex. 54); Notices of Completion (Ex. 55); Warrant Register Batches 96-134; Consultant Services Agreement – Special Education (Ex. 56); Special Education Contracts (Ex. 57). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools District. *Harbor High School* – Mr. and Mrs. Leon Mosse have donated two Zenith DVD players, valued at approximately \$150, to the Social Studies Department. *Branciforte Small Schools Campus* – Rex Stewart of New Leaf Community Markets has donated food for the Second Annual Branciforte Small Schools Campus Celebration. This donation is valued at approximately \$220. *Alternative Family Education* – Marie and Charlie Keutmann have donated plants to the "Learning Circle" for the primary-age class. This donation is valued at approximately \$150. The Keutmanns have also donated plants, valued at \$150, to AFE teacher Meg Brown. Andres Wilson has donated an autoharp, valued at approximately \$200; a bowed psaltery, valued at approximately \$100; and a drum valued at approximately \$50. Total value of gifts: \$1,200. Mr. Routh seconded the motion. This motion was passed by Roll Call Vote, as follows:

<b><u>Roll Call Vote</u></b>	Collins – Yes	Neustadter – Yes	Routh – Yes
Willis – Yes	Wagman – Yes		

## STAFF REPORTS

### CBEDS Enrollment Report

Mr. Moss provided the annual update on the CBEDS enrollment report for the District taken statewide on the first Wednesday in October. This information is collected demographic data regarding students, faculty, and district employees on an annual basis.

### Summer School Report

Mr. Porras introduced Paul Brennan, Principal of the District's 2005 Summer School Program, to report on the secondary summer school program, held at Santa Cruz High School. This report contained information on course offerings, attendance, accomplishments, and suggestions for future summer school programs. Mr. Brennan introduced Vice Principal Belinda Garza, who reported on the elementary summer school program, held at Gault Elementary. This report covered the many successes of the program, and ideas for the future. Paul Brennan, Belinda Garza, and the entire Summer School Staff are to be commended for their exemplary contributions toward success of these programs, and commitment to students in this district.

**Investment Report for the Quarter Ending 9/30/05**

Mr. Moss made a quarterly report on the investments of the school district. District cash for all funds is on deposit with and is invested by the Santa Cruz County Auditor-Controller. Mr. Moss reported on interest rates and revenues, Certificates of Participation debt service reserves, and Foundation Trust Fund stock activity.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution #18-05-06 Public School Collaboration for Santa Cruz County Children**

Santa Cruz County Superintendents and Board Presidents have been meeting with County Superintendent of Schools Diane Siri for discussions of whether the delivery of educational services for all students might be improved through increased collaborations between school districts. The group has taken three initial steps:

1. Developed a partial list of existing collaborations between school districts
2. Begun development of a new survey instrument of what stakeholders want from school districts
3. Prepared this Resolution to gauge support for collaborations from school district boards

All school boards in Santa Cruz County are being asked to support this Resolution.

Mr. Neustadter moved approval, and Mr. Routh seconded the motion. This motion was carried by Roll Call Vote, as follows: (Ex. 58)

<b><u>Roll Call Vote</u></b>	Collins – Yes	Neustadter – Yes	Routh – Yes
	Wagman – Yes	Willis – Yes	

**Revision: Policy & AR 5127.1 Graduation And Diplomas: Comprehensive High Schools**

Mr. Porras delivered this report to the Trustees. In March 2004, Trustees approved the revision of the district policy regarding Graduation and Diplomas to include Algebra I, as required by the Education Code. This revision includes a clarification as to what constitutes the Algebra I program. This revision also reflects the addition of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) as a state and local requirement for graduation, restrictions to Contract P.E., new legislation granting retroactive diplomas for veterans and interned Americans. For students who have completed all work required to graduate but do not pass the CAHSEE, the District has created an alternative “Certificate of Achievement” for Board consideration. After much discussion clarifications and revisions will be included in the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of this document, MSP (Wagman/Routh) 4-0-1. Mr. Neustadter cast the abstaining vote.

**Acceptance of 2004-05 Year-End Financial Report and 2005-06 Budget Update**

Mr. Moss reported that the General Fund ended the year with an operating surplus of \$1,849,629. The General Fund ended the year with a restricted ending balance of \$3,409,331. The unrestricted ending balance was \$3,513,285, representing an unrestricted reserve of 6.27%, \$1,453,394 greater than budget. The 2004-05 Preliminary Audit Findings could result in a loss of revenue in 2005-06. These findings were primarily the

result of forms that contained errors – all forms have been corrected and SCCS is appealing these revenue losses. The potential revenue loss will be reflected in the 2005-06 budgets until the District completes the appeal process. The net effect of several expenditure changes in the 2005-06 budgets is to increase total expenditures by \$3,450,000. The 2005-06 Unrestricted Reserve is \$237,000 above the minimum 3% required by the State. The 2005-06 Projected Budget is based on the 2005-06 Adopted Budget from June 2005. Employee salaries and benefits have not been updated based on actuals – the 2005-06 Revised Budget in the First Interim Report on 12/14/05 will reflect updated employee salaries and benefits.

There were extended discussions and questions regarding this report from Trustees, members of the audience, and union representatives. GSCFT and SCCCE leaders expressed displeasure at the amount of reserves, and also voiced concerns regarding expenses that appeared to be overstated in this budget. Board Members expressed desire to see monies go to students and student support – which would include support of certificated and classified employees. At the conclusion of discussion, MSP (Willis/Wagman) 5-0, the Board approved the Acceptance of 2004-05 Year-End Financial Report and 2005-06 Budget Update. (Ex. 59)

#### **Approve 2006-07 Budget Assumptions and Enrollment Projections**

Mr. Moss presented a list of 2006-07 revenue and expenditure assumptions, and two sets of 2006-07 enrollment projections. The projections prepared by the District predict a decline of 165 students, while the projection prepared by the demographer assumes no change in enrollment. Mr. Moss reported that these budget assumptions would periodically be reviewed and adjusted through the Budget and Finance Committee. MSP (Willis/Routh) 5-0, the Board approved the 2006-07 Budget Assumptions and Enrollment Projections. (Ex. 60)

#### **Sunshining of SCCS Contract Proposal for 2005-06 School Year**

Ms. Krause reported this contract proposal is being submitted for “Sunshining” in accordance with the Employees Relations Act for public notice of contract proposals before official negotiations begin. Ms. Krause also noted that she anticipates other items coming forward during the negotiations process. MSP (Willis/Neustadter) 5-0, the Board approved the Sunshining of a contract proposal for the 2005-06 school year.

#### **Approval of Revised Classified Job Descriptions**

Ms. Krause recommended the revision of the current job descriptions for the classifications of Site Program Coordinator, Senior Food Service Worker, Administrative Assistant Confidential and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Confidential are approved. It is further recommended that the job descriptions for the classifications of Accounting Technician I & II, Facilities Service Foremen, Lead Food Service Worker, Personnel Technician I & II, Resource Center Technician be approved for the first reading and forwarded to the Personnel Commission for recommendation of employment standards and salary schedule placement. MSP (Routh/Wagman) 5-0, the Trustees approved the Revised Classified Job Descriptions. (Ex. 61)

## **INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS**

### **Future Meetings**

There will be a Special Board of Education Meeting on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, Room 312, District Office, 405 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2005, 6:00 p.m., Gault Elementary School, 1320 Seabright Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

### **Closed Session Action Report**

The Board approved staff recommendation to suspend/expel students #02-05-06, #03-05-06, #04-05-06 and #05-05-06.

The Board heard an update regarding litigation Mission Hill Neighbors & Parents Assoc. v. SCCS.

The Board heard an update regarding negotiations with the GSCFT.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, President Collins adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

John Collins, President  
Board of Education