## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS December 13, 2006

#### **Call to Order**

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:09 p.m., in Multi-Purpose room at Westlake Elementary, 1000 High St., Santa Cruz, CA.

#### **Attendance at Meeting**

John CollinsFelix RoblesKen WagmanDon MaxwellRachel Dewey ThorsettStudent Representative:Ian Magruder

Cynthia Hawthorne Wendy Strimling

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

#### Welcome and Format

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

#### Agenda Changes

Superintendent Pagano did not have any requests for changes to the agenda. Ms. Hawthorne requested moving the Information/Discussion Items to follow the Closed Session Action Report under New Business. Ms. Dewey Thorsett asked to set a 15 minute time limit for these discussion items.

#### **INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

Superintendent Pagano recognized Santa Cruz Council Member Ryan Coonerty and former Santa Cruz Mayor Weed-Pomerantz in the audience, and introduced County Schools Superintendent Elect Michael Watkins to administer the oath for the position of School Board Trustee to Ms. Rachel Dewey Thorsett, Ms. Cynthia Hawthorne, Ms. Wendy Strimling, and Mr. Don Maxwell. Superintendent Elect Watkins acknowledged the commitment of the Trustees.

#### ANNUAL BOARD REORGANIZATION

Ms. Rachel Dewey Thorsett was approved for Board President, MSP (Collins/Robles) with a vote of 7-0. Student Magruder gave a positive advisory vote. Ms. Cynthia Hawthorne was approved as Board Vice President, MSP (Collins/Wagman) with a vote of 7-0. Student Magruder gave a positive advisory vote. MSP (Wagman/Strimling) 7-0, Superintendent Pagano was approved as Board Clerk. Student Magruder voted yes.

## STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Student Representative Ian Magruder welcomed and congratulated the new Board Members. Representative Magruder attended a meeting at Costanoa HS regarding the food offerings for the students, and reported a successful conclusion.

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

President Dewey Thorsett thanked Trustee Ken Wagman for his year of service as Board President. President Dewey Thorsett expressed pleasure at the prospect of working with such a dedicated and energetic group. This elected Board and the dedicated community are the key resources to achieving great schools. The Trustees intend to provide cohesive leadership and include all stakeholders in the work of the District. Concrete and measurable goals and an increased shared understanding of what it takes to reach those goals will allow for an exciting year. Better use of the Information/Discussion period will prove useful as the Board Members become more familiar with policy and community.

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

Trustee Collins welcomed new Members, and congratulated President Dewey Thorsett and Vice President Hawthorne on their respective appointments. Mr. Collins would like SCCS to strive toward becoming a "Green" District. All students should see the following movies: "An Inconvenient Truth" and "Too Hot to Handle." Mr. Collins would like to ensure: all rooms have recycling bins; cut back on paper use; educate parents on global warming; use timers for lights and air conditioners; students should take action at home to conserve; reduce use of juice boxes, water bottles in cafeteria, class parties, school lunches; conduct energy audit for students and schools; reward use of hybrid cars; review school purchases; encourage carpooling. Congratulations were offered to Harbor High School administrators for studying the addition of an academy program at the school.

Trustee Robles welcomed the new Board Members and thanked Mr. Wagman for his year of service as Board President. Mr. Robles presented an article to the other Trustees taken from the Harvard Business Review detailing strong and collaborative education and student support.

Board Member Hawthorne acknowledged that the new Board Members are not new to the District or the issues that challenge this District. The success of this Board will rely heavily on the involvement of the community. Ms. Hawthorne proposed a "suggestion box" at each site.

Board Member Wagman thanked the other Board Members for the privilege of serving as Board President. After attending the CSBA Conference, Mr. Wagman has some suggestions for policy changes regarding the Student Representative position.

Trustee Maxwell offered thanks to all who helped him achieve his goal of becoming a Board Member, and remarked that it was wonderful to become a Board Member in this time of financial security. Board Member Maxwell reported it was necessary to have a thorough district-wide needs assessment.

Board Member Strimling reported getting involved in the District through classroom volunteerism, observing great teachers at work, and the inspiration of husband and family.

Ms. Strimling invited the public to the Mission Hill Middle School choir concert on December 14 and the Santa Cruz High School Band Concert on December 21.

**RECESS:** Board President Dewey Thorsett recessed this Regular Meeting at 6:52 p.m. The meeting will reconvene after the public has the opportunity to celebrate with cake and juice the installation of the new Trustees.

**RECONVENE MEETING:** Board President Dewey Thorsett reconvened this Regular Meeting at 7:07 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Westlake Principal Clyde Curley welcomed everyone to this Regular Meeting and congratulated the new Board Members. SCCCE Officer Joan Lowe passed out information to the Trustees which dealt with roles and responsibilities of the District and the Personnel Commission. SCCS Parent Jennifer Hastings proposed approval of plans for the development of an alternative middle school for the district. Monarch Parent and AFE consultant teacher Mark Thomas advocated for SCCS becoming a "green district." Three speakers spoke regarding the possible health risks to district students by exposure to cell phone tower emissions.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent welcomed the new Board Members, and congratulated them on a successful campaign. Congratulations were given to President Dewey Thorsett and Vice President Hawthorne regarding their new positions. The BFAC met on Dec. 12, and will meet again on Jan. 9. Mr. Pagano met with Dr. Carol Moran from UCSC regarding the possibility of identifying some sites as having the greatest need for additional resources from the Monterey Bay Education Consortium. The Superintendent attended a District Health Benefits Committee Meeting on Dec. 11. Mr. Pagano attended the Harbor High School Site Council meeting on Dec. 12. On Dec. 12, Superintendent Pagano met with the Pacific Collegiate School Principal and 4 teachers to exchange views and perspectives. The Superintendent concluded his report by extending wishes for a joyous holiday season and New Year to the Trustees and the community.

#### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

### Consent Agenda

Board Member Strimling asked to have the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 29, 2006 and also the Classified Personnel Actions regarding the use of Professional Experts removed from the regular Consent Agenda and discussed as separate issues. Mr. Maxwell moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of:

Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 84); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 85); Gifts; Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 86); Warrant Register 130-153; Change Orders (Ex. 87); Notices of Completion (Ex. 88); Memorandum of Understanding with the Live Oak School District (Ex. 89); Special Education Contracts (Ex. 90); Soquel High School, Branciforte Middle School, and DeLaveaga Elementary School Discretionary Block Grant Budgets (Ex. 91). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools District: *Bay View Elementary* – The Cotsen Family Foundation has donated \$1000 for the Parent Involvement Grant; *Branciforte Middle School* – Stuart Dunsmore has donated a Compaq Presario, Windows Millennium CD burner and software, valued at approximately \$500. Mike Shanks of Marion R. Shanks Builder installed a new marquee free of charge for the school. His work is valued at approximately \$700. Branciforte Small Schools Campus – Matt Farrell of the SC Education Foundation has donated \$1000 to be used for the mural project. *Mission Hill Middle School* – The Rotary Club of Santa Cruz Sunrise has donated \$500 to be used toward a sponsorship of school athletics. Harbor High School – Wayne Schenk and Charles Canfield of Subaru of Santa Cruz sponsored the countywide Subaru fundraiser which enabled Harbor High School to raise more than \$7800. Expo Daily Director Graeme Blackburn donated 4800 cans of spray paint for use by students and staff for projects. This donation is valued at approximately \$19,200. Jim Marshall of Suncrest Nurseries donated plants, trees and shrubs for the Beautification Project. This gift is valued at approximately \$793. Sutter Hospital Director Gary Ruppal donated 22 desks and other office items for use throughout the school. This donation is valued at approximately \$3000. Soquel High School – Layla Dawson has donated five Phillips DVD players valued at approximately \$350. Costanoa High School – Jeff Ditter of Sports Design has donated customer t-shirts valued at approximately \$250. Alternative Family Education – Robin Mills has donated children's books valued at approximately \$200. Total value of gifts: \$35,293. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Collins – YesDewey Thorsett – YesHawthorne – YesMaxwell – YesRobles – YesStrimling – YesWagman – YesStudent Magruder – Yes

#### Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 29, 2006

Only three Board Members who attended the November 29 meeting are present here tonight. Mr. Collins moved to suspend the rules and have the present Board Members vote on acceptance of these minutes, and Mr. Robles seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 92)

Roll Call Vote: Collins - YesDewey Thorsett - YesHawthorne - YesMaxwell - YesRobles - YesStrimling - YesWagman - YesStudent Magruder - Yes

#### **Classified Personnel Actions – Professional Experts**

Ms. Krause reported that due to the required academic programs instituted at Program Improvement schools Branciforte Middle School and Mission Hill Middle School, the Professional Experts were being utilized to offer students an opportunity to stay after school on early-release Professional Development Wednesdays. This process could be amended in the future for approval before the contract begins. Ms. Strimling moved approval of the Professional Expert contracts, with the stipulation that further discussion of the professional expert job classification be scheduled for a future meeting.. Ms. Robles seconded this motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 93)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes		Dewey Thorsett – Yes	Hawthorne - Yes
Maxwell – Yes	Robles – Yes	Strimling – Yes	Wagman – Yes
Student Magruder – Yes			

#### STAFF REPORTS

#### New Teacher Center Presentation

Superintendent Pagano introduced Robert Hatcher and Cynthia Balthazar of the New Teacher Center to report to the Board Members on the successful collaborative partnership over virtually two decades.

#### GASB 45

Mr. Moss reported that GASB 45 is a recent ruling of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board that sets new standards for the financial reporting of other post-employment benefits (OPEBs) provided to employees by governmental agencies. OPEBs are typically retiree health benefits. GASB 45 changes the reporting requirements for OPEBs but does not change the funding requirements. GASB 45 requires that an actuarial study be completed every two to three years to update estimates of an agency's OPEB liability for the purpose of reporting it on the agency's financial statements. Some of the variables that determine the level of the liability are:

- Numbers of employees and retirees
- Number of years of service to qualify for benefits
- Age required to qualify for benefits
- Number of years after retirement that benefits are provided
- Amount of turnover of employees
- Level of benefits provided
- Inflation on health costs

SCCS is required to begin reporting its OPEB liability in its financial statements beginning with the 2008-09 fiscal year. The District has options regarding funding its OPEB liability: 1) Continue the current pay-as-you-go practice; 2) Transfer the annual OPEB amount to a separate Fund 20 and pay retiree benefits out of that fund; (3) Establish an irrevocable trust and pay the annual OPEB amount into the trust. GASB 45 standards only recognize option 3 as a legitimate asset to offset the District's OPEB liability because irrevocable trust funds cannot be used for any other purpose.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## NEW BUSINESS

## **Closed Session Action Report**

- 1. The Board heard an update on real property negotiations Re: 2931 Mission Street and provided direction.
- 2. The Board heard an update Re: negotiations and provided direction
- 3. The Board took action to expel student #07-06-07

# **INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS**

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

## Set Date for Board Goals Retreat

The Board Members set a date of February 3, 2007 for a retreat, and the location will be announced at a later time.

#### Proposal - District Wide Needs Assessment

Matt Farrell, Santa Cruz Education Foundation President, reported the SCEF provides an annual survey to the sites soliciting needs, but the task requires a more comprehensive process to be effectively used. Ms. Hawthorne moved to create a limited-term Ad Hoc committee of three Board Members, with staff support, to: review the CSBA and New Teacher Project models and explore other models for a district-wide needs assessment; talk with other districts that have conducted needs assessments for best practice suggestions; report back to the full board so that the Trustees can vote on whether to pursue a fast-track needs assessment with results that can be evaluated in the context of the current budget process. Mr. Wagman seconded this motion. This motion was approved without dissent, and with the

recommendation of the Student Representative. The committee shall consist of Ms. Hawthorne and Mr. Maxwell.

## **Creation of Board Budget Sub-Committee**

Since this committee is an advisory committee that reports to the Superintendent, President Dewey Thorsett's suggested an official committee with members appointed by the Trustees and reporting to the Board of Education. Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Collins expressed reservations regarding duplication of time and efforts of staff, Trustees, and the community members. Following discussion, the Board decided to bring this issue back for discussion to decide how to proceed.

### Creation of Additional Board Sub-Committees, Task Forces & Ad Hoc Committees

Ms. Hawthorne suggested a Board-appointed, staff-supported Green Schools Committee that will include community experts in alternative transportation, recycling and waste reduction, eco-friendly packing materials, and ocean/river restoration. The committee will advise the Board Members on eco-friendly policy options for district operations and for environmental stewardship learning opportunities for students. Trustees Hawthorne, Collins, and Wagman volunteered for this team. The District Superintendent is to be included or a designee to participate on this and other suggested committees.

## Proposal Re: Term of Student Representative(s) to the Board

Mr. Wagman proposed that the Board of Education have two Student Representatives with staggered start times – one in the Fall and one in the Spring - and each student will serve for a one-year period. This would allow for better/fuller participation and a mentor to give the newer Representative guidance and direction.

## **NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

# 2006-07 First Interim Financial Report with a Positive Financial Solvency Certification

Mr. Moss introduced Ms. Lacey to report to the Trustees and ask for approval of the financial report. The report contains: First Interim Report for the General Fund; Three Year Budget Projection; Board Certification of Interim Report; Budget Criteria and Standards; Projected ADA; Cash Flow Projection; First Interim Report for Other Funds. The First Interim Report has a positive certification because the General Fund projection for 2006-07 through 2008-09 indicates a reserve above the 3% State required minimum in all three years. Following discussion of how extra funds might be best utilized for immediate site needs, Superintendent Pagano reported he would see that this discussion was included in the BFAC meeting on January 9 2007. Funding must be identified so that needs could be met in a fair and consistent manner. BFAC can make recommendations and also address how the budget and reserves would be affected. A determination regarding how money can be spent in the current year could be presented by the end of January 2007. Ms. Hamilton, Dir. of Special Projects reported there are needs assessments already in place. Every site has completed assessments regarding academic needs. It was agreed to discuss this more thoroughly in January. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 7-0, the Board approved the First Interim Financial Report. Student Magruder approved. (Ex. 94)

# **Receive Preliminary 2007-08 ZBB Revenue Distribution**

Mr. Moss distributed the Preliminary Distribution of Revenues to the Trustees. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year this process has been used for budgeting in the District. Following discussion, Ms. Strimling moved to "Receive" rather than "Approve" this report, based on the fact that this work is ongoing and will come back to the Board at a later date with revisions, etc. Ms.

Hawthorne seconded this motion. This motion was approved by the Board Members without dissent, including Student Magruder.

\*\* Note: Mr. Robles left at 10:10 p.m. and the number of members voting for the remainder of this meeting is 6 + Student Magruder.

## **Board Policy Advisory Committee**

The Board of Trustees has indicated a desire to form an Advisory Committee to review current Board policies. MSP (Wagman/Collins) 6-0, the Board approved the formation of such a committee. Student Magruder also approved. Board Members included are: Collins, Wagman, and Strimling.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Increase in School Facility Fees**

**Open:** Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 10:26 p.m. The Board is required to conduct a Public Hearing to allow for public comment prior to approving an increase in School Facilities Fees. Notice of this hearing was printed in the Sentinel on 12/3/06 and 12/8/06, and was posted at the District Office and at the school sites. **Public Comments:** None

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 10:28 p.m.

### **<u>Resolution #10-06-07 Increase in School Facility Fees – Elementary</u> <u>Resolution #11-06-07 Increase in School Facility Fees – Secondary</u>**

Mr. Moss reported the District currently collects School Facility Fees from developers or individuals who construct new residential or commercial units in the district. The District received \$521,779 in School Facility Fees in 2005-06. Assuming the same amount of annual square feet of new development, the proposed fee increase would generate \$309,905 in additional annual revenue. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval, and Mr. Collins seconded this motion. These resolutions were approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 95)

Roll Call Vote:Collins – YesDewey Thorsett – YesHawthorne – YesMaxwell – YesStrimling – YesWagman – YesStudent Magruder – Yes

## <u>Resolution #7-06-07 Providing Notice of Withdrawal From the SCC Schools Health</u> <u>Insurance Group</u>

Mr. Moss reported the District Benefits Study Committee is studying options for providing employee health benefits outside of SCCSHIG JPA. The BSC will bring a recommendation to the Trustees on February 28 for Board discussion. Ms. Strimling moved approval, and Mr. Collins seconded the motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 96) **Roll Call Vote:** Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Maxwell – Yes Hawthorne – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes Student Magruder – Yes

## **Resolution #8-06-07 Providing Notice of Withdrawal from the SELF/JPA**

Mr. Moss reported that the District has been a member of SPRIG (Southern Peninsula Region Insurance Group) JPA for property and liability insurance for several years. SPRIG is a member of a larger JPA NCR (Northern California Relief) that insures individual liability claims from \$50,001 to \$1,000,000. Once a claim exceeds \$1,000,000, the amount above \$1,000,000 goes to another JPA SELF (Schools Excess Liability Fund) up to \$20,000,000. A problem has been identified in the inconsistency in the coverage documents between NCR and SELF that could cause part of a claims cost to fall back to the local school district. If a single employee settled lawsuits filed by two different families for \$2,000,000 each – SPRIG

and NCR would treat this as one claim and would pay \$1,000,000. SELF, on the other hand, would consider this to be two claims, and would pay \$1,000,000 on each claim. The District would be \$1,000,000 short on coverage because only \$3,000,000 of the \$4,000,000 in claims was covered. NCR is in the process of developing a program that would eliminate this disconnect. By providing this notice of withdrawal, SCCS has the ability to consider an alternative to SELF through NCR. IF SELF fixes the coverage disconnect by 7/1/07, and if the NCR program does not prove to be as cost-effective as SELF, the District can rejoin SELF prior to 7/1/07. Mr. Maxwell moved approval and Mr. Collins seconded this motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 97) **Roll Call Vote:** Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes Maxwell – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes Student Magruder – Abstain

## Resolution #9-06-07 To Close State School Building Lease/Purchase Fund

The State School Building Lease-Purchase Fund was set up in the 1980's when the District received State modernization funds for Gault. The District added 50% matching funds to the State funds. When modernization was completed, not all funds were utilized and the balance has been earning interest. The District has been required to transfer 50% of the interest earnings back to the State. By closing this fund and transferring the balance to the Building Fund, half of the interest earnings will no longer have the be paid to the State, and the funds will be available to use for future construction projects. Mr. Collins moved approval and Ms. Strimling seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 98) **Roll Call Vote:** Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes Strimling – Yes Strimling – Yes

## <u>PUBLIC HEARING: 2006-07 Collective Bargaining Agreement Between SCCS and</u> <u>GSCFT and Disclosure of Costs of Agreement</u>

**Open:** Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 11:10 p.m. On April 13, 2005, the Board approved a collective bargaining agreement with the Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers (GSCFT) for fiscal years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07. The proposed salary schedule increase of 5.46% in 2006-07 is based on the formula in that agreement. The Board is required to make the fiscal impact of this agreement available to the public, to publicly disclose its costs and to conduct a public hearing to receive public comments prior to approving it.

**Public Comments:** GSCFT President Kirschen expressed approval of the salary formula component of the bargaining agreement, and reported a desire to include a formula component in future bargaining agreements.

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 11:12 p.m.

#### Approve Salary Formula Increase for GSCFT

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the 5.46% increase in the Teachers' Salary Schedule for 2006-07, retroactive to 7/1/06, based on the salary formula in the GSCFT contract. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 6-0, the Board approved the salary increase. Student Magruder approved. (Ex. 99)

#### **Request for Deferral of School Developer Fees**

Mr. Moss reported that a developer is requesting deferral of payment of the School Developer Fees on the new development at 2030 North Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz. The project is 70 residential (condominium) units (86,442 sq. ft.) and some commercial space (5,193 sq. ft.) At current rates, the school fees on the project would be \$143,979. The fee would be deferred

until the project is complete and the last residential unit is sold. The agreement would be recorded on the deed to the property as a promissory note. The 5.2% compounded interest would be paid when the principal is paid, at the end of the project. In return for this agreement, the developer would give first consideration to sell the four affordable units in the project to SCCS employees who qualify based on income. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 6-0, the Board approved the request for deferral of School Developer Fees in concept contingent upon written agreement being returned to the Board for approval. Student Magruder approved. (Ex. 100)

### **Sunshining of GSCFT Negotiations Openers 2006-07**

Ms. Krause recommended the Trustees approve the GSCFT contract proposals for "Sunshining" in accordance with the Employees Relations Act for public notice of contract proposals before official negotiations may begin. The GSCFT proposes to open the following articles for negotiation: Hours of Employment & Binding Arbitration. MSP (Wagman/Collins) 6-0, the Board approved the Sunshining of GSCFT Negotiation Openers 2006-07. Student Magruder approved.

## New Job Description: Academic Intervention Coordinator

Mr. Porras recommended the Board of Education approve the new job description for Academic Intervention Coordinator for first and final reading. This position will serve under the general direction of the Assistant Superintendent of Education Services and/or his/her designee. The goal of the district Academic Intervention Coordinator is to raise literacy levels and to improve academic achievement through establishing and monitoring programs of students in support programs. State and Federal intervention funding will support intervention programs. After discussion MSP (Wagman/Strimling) 4-0-2, the Trustees approved the New Job Description for Academic Intervention Coordinator for a First Reading. Ms. Hawthorne and Mr. Maxwell abstained from the vote. Student Magruder approved.

## **INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS (continued)**

## **Future Meetings**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is Wednesday, January 10, 2007, 6:00 p.m. in Room 312, District Office, 405 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. The Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 will be held at 6:00 p.m. at DeLaveaga Elementary School, 1145 Morrissey Blvd., Santa Cruz, CA. A Board Retreat will be held on February 3, 2007, 8-12 Noon, location TBD.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, President Dewey Thorsett adjourned this Regular Meeting at 11:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent Santa Cruz City Schools Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President Board of Education