

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

**March 28, 2007**

**Call to Order**

Board President Dewey Thorsett called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:06 p.m., in the Multi-Purpose Room at Westlake Elementary School, 1000 High St., Santa Cruz, CA.

**Attendance at Meeting**

John Collins                      Rachel Dewey Thorsett                      Cynthia Hawthorne  
Don Maxwell                      Felix Robles                      Ken Wagman                      Wendy Strimling  
Student Representative Ian Magruder

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

**Welcome and Format**

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

**Agenda Changes**

None

**Site Welcome**

Westlake Principal Curley welcomed the Trustees, Staff, and audience members to the site, and introduced the band instructor, Ms. Donna Tolaio, and members of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade flute program to present two of the songs they are preparing for the upcoming recital. Flautists included: Lorna Gilmore; Kishan Patel; Chloe Moreno; Madison Eadie; and April McIlwaine. Communication Ambassadors to School (CATS) Lorna Gilmore, Laura Thorsett, Emily Locatelli, and Elianne Parks explained the problem-solving and conflict-resolution services provided to students, as well as prizes awarded for good behavior and the application of life skills. Principal Curley invited everyone to the Annual Arts Fair at Westlake on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Marilyn Garrett called for the removal of cell towers in the proximity of children. Mission Hill Principal Dona Abrahams-Johnson and Santa Cruz High School Principal Karen Edmonds extended thanks to the Commission for the Prevention of Violence against Women for their informative presentations during P. E. classes and also to the Santa Cruz Education Foundation for sponsoring these appearances. Stephen Thorsett, Dean of Physical and Biological Sciences at UCSC spoke about UC's Cal Teach program to train 1,000 highly qualified math and science teachers per year in California and

recognized Santa Cruz City Schools for their support of this endeavor. Santa Cruz High School Principal Karen Edmonds thanked the Trustees and staff members for the support extended during the WASC visitation process. Parents from the Adult Educations's Soquel Parent Cooperative Nursery School asked the Trustees to provide funds for the replacement of exposed fiberglass ceiling tiles at this site. Director of Curriculum and Assessment Diane Morgenstern reported that the Noyce Foundation MARS Math project increased participation rates from 600 students last year to 1600 students during the current school year

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Pagano thanked Principal Clyde Curley for hosting this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education. Mr. Pagano reported attending the following meetings/events: Delta Charter School Board Meeting on March 15; Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Meeting on March 20; a very productive Board Study Session on March 22; March 23 Rotary Meeting; WASC visit at Santa Cruz High School; the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce meeting on March 26. The Superintendent accepted the resignation of Director of Special Projects Hamilton, and commended her for her exemplary service, knowledge, skills, expertise, and moral imperative to better serve all students.

Superintendent Pagano noted that the district has administration vacancies for Branciforte Middle School Assistant Principal and Harbor High School Principal. Mr. Pagano noted the lapel pins distributed to Board Members this evening – these pins celebrate the 150 year anniversary of Santa Cruz City Schools – and there will be several upcoming events to recognize this milestone. The County Office of Education Superintendent Watkins has sent a survey soliciting input regarding the potential departure of the COE offices to a location on the west side of Santa Cruz. The Cultural Council will host a special meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>, and would like a Board Member from each district to attend.

Ms. Strimling asked to include choosing of a representative for the Cultural Council Meeting as Item 4.9 to the agenda for this evening. The Trustees approved this agenda addition.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Student Magruder commended the Santa Cruz High School Mock Trial Team for their efforts to prepare for the State competition.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 14, 2007; Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 158); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 159); Personnel Commission – Resignation of Commissioner Susan Hill; Gifts; Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 160); Warrant Register; Change Orders (Ex. 161); Budget Transfers; Disposition of Surplus Property (Ex. 162); SCCS 2007-08 School Calendar (Ex. 163); State of California Environmental Education Grant Agreement (Ex. 164); Special Education Contracts (Ex. 165); Soquel High School Wilderness Field Trip; Lease Agreement w/Housing Authority for 2931

Mission St. (Ex. 166). Mr. Robles seconded the motion, which was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

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

### **STAFF REPORTS**

#### **R-30 Language Census & Student National Origin Report**

Ms. Hamilton reported the R-30 Language Census is an annual data collection administered in March to collect the following: number of English Learner (EL) students and fluent English-proficient (FEP) students in California public schools by grade and primary language other than English; the number of EL students enrolled in specific instructional settings; the number of students reclassified since the prior year; the number of parental waivers submitted and granted; and the number of staff providing instructional services to EL students. The Student National Origin Report (SNOR) is the form used by the California Department of Education (CDE) to collect the results of the annual count of eligible immigrant students. Together, these reports are utilized for both allocations of funding and student data reporting for student progress. The R-30 and the SNOR are the data sources for federal Title III funding, and the R-30 is the source data upon which allocation of state EIA-LEP funding is determined.

#### **Supplemental Education Services & Academic Intervention Coordination**

Ms. Hamilton reported that No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 required Title I schools in Year 2 and beyond of Program Improvement status to offer parents supplemental educational services (SES) for eligible students. These services are enrichment activities beyond the regular school day. Services are to be high quality, research-based, and designed to improve student academic achievement. Students are eligible for services if they are in Title I schools and (1) not meeting State Board of Education content standards in reading and math and (2) from low-income families. The Office of Special Projects is responsible for coordination of SES programs, including legal requirements and the role of the Academic Intervention Coordinator in facilitating alignment of academic intervention services throughout the district.

#### **Pre-Kindergarten at Gault Elementary**

Superintendent Pagano reported that based on an MOU with Campus Kids Connection approved by the Board of Trustees on June 21, 2006, a Pre-Kindergarten class has been offered this year at Gault Elementary School. The curriculum is CDE approved. The teacher/student ratio is 1/8, and there are 3 bilingual teachers in the class. Kindergarten readiness for students increases with attendance in these programs. The facility and teachers are licensed, and all students attend at no cost to the family or the district. This program has exceeded expectations. Gault Principal Mary Anne James noted anticipation of spring student assessments, and reported that enrollment for Fall 2007 is already under way.

### **Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Report**

Superintendent Pagano introduced Glen Schaller to report to the Trustees. Mr. Schaller informed the Board Members that while original bond measures passed with 66.8% of the vote, the tax renewals passed with 81% margin - clearly the public is pleased with how these funds are managed. If SCCS proceeds with placing Measure B1 on the ballot for renewal, the district should move forward to have it ready for the February 2008 ballot. If SCCS conducts a survey in September 2007, the results would be valid for either a February or June 2008 ballot. The information obtained in the survey could be used to formulate the final ballot language for a November 2007 filing deadline. In addition to questions about the time line preparing for a possible renewal, Board members had questions about current year spending and recommendations for 2007/2008 uses. Mr. Schaller said that the PTOC would report on those issues later in the year. The Board of Trustees asked for this item to be included on the agenda at the second May meeting.

**Break:** Board President Dewey Thorsett called for a short break in the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

**Reconvene:** Board President Dewey Thorsett reconvened this meeting at 7:51 p.m.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Closed Session Action Report**

Board voted 7/0 to carry out the suspended expulsion of student #10-06-07.  
Board heard an update and gave direction regarding negotiations with the GSCFT.  
Board heard an update and gave direction regarding negotiations with SCCCE.  
Board discussed the Superintendent Evaluation Tool. No action was taken.

#### **Solar Power Purchase Agreement**

Mr. Moss reported this item is brought to the Board Members this evening for information only, and will return for action on April 18, 2007. The District has been in discussion with Solar Technologies, a Santa Cruz alternative energy company, about the possibility of installing solar voltaic arrays on all of our school sites. These arrays would generate clean electricity for the schools at a lower rate than PG&E rates. Solar Technologies would be the system installer and Generating Assets LLC (GA) would own the system and sell the power to the District. GA would be responsible for ongoing maintenance, and would benefit from PG&E rebates on the systems, as well as federal tax credits and depreciation allowances. A Site Lease agreement would allow GA to install their equipment on District facilities. The agreement has a 20 year term with a 5-year renewal option. The four basic elements to the financial arrangement are: starting price per KWH; annual price inflator; termination value; buy-out price. The terms to include in the Power Purchase Agreement will be agreed upon prior to submission for Board approval on April 18. Cost savings over 20 years is projected to range from \$2,243,723 to \$3,350,923.

### **Public Hearing: 2006-07 Collective Bargaining Agreement**

**Open:** Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this hearing at 8:27 p.m.

Ms. Krause reported the proposed agreement with SCCCE for fiscal year 2006-07 is to drop the first two ranges of the salary schedule and move all classified positions up two ranges, equivalent to a 5.0% increase for all classified employees. A second agreement would increase the longevity increments that commence after 6 years of service to 3% at each step. The Board of Education is required to make this agreement public, to disclose costs and to conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the agreement prior to approval.

**Public Comments:** Classified employee Nancy Lentz asked the Board to approve the terms of this agreement, and direct the district to provide an additional .46% increase in salary for the classified employees so that all members would receive parity in percentage of pay increase. Classified employee Nina Wilcox asked for a 5.46% increase in salary for all members of the classified bargaining unit. GSCFT President Kirschen reported that not all other bargaining units have received 5.46% increases. SCCCE representatives Joan Lowe and Robert Chacanaca asked the Board Members to approve this agreement, and noted the 92% rate of approval for those members who voted on the agreement.

**Close:** Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 8:36 p.m.

### **Tentative Contract Agreement between SCCCE and the SCCSD for 2006-07**

Following discussion of the Public Hearing, MSP (Robles/Wagman) 7-0, the Trustees approved the Contract Agreement between SCCCE and SCCSD. Student Magruder votes yes. (Ex. 167)

\* Note: At this time, Student Representative Magruder left the meeting.

### **SISC JPA Agreement and Bylaws**

Mr. Moss reported that on March 14, 2007, the Board approved leaving the Santa Cruz County Schools Health Insurance Group JPA and joining the Self-Insured Schools of California (SISC) JPA effective 7/1/07. Mr. Moss noted one difference in the by-laws presented for approval and those the Board had seen prior to the March 14 meeting: Although withdrawal from SISC required a 1.5 month advance notice, Mr. Moss had learned that SCCS would be required to have a 3 year membership before a withdrawal is available. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board approved the SISC JPA Agreement and Bylaws. (Ex. 168)

### **Opening of Sunshine Period for the GSCFT Contract Proposals for the 2007-08 School Year**

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the 2007-08 contract openers. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board approved the opening of the Sunshine Period.

**Opening of Sunshine Period for the SCCS Contract Proposals for Certificated Employees for the 2006-07 School Year**

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the SCCS contract proposals for “sunshining”. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board approved the opening of the Sunshine Period.

**Opening of Sunshine Period for the SCCS Contract Proposals for Classified Employees for the 2006-07 School Year**

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the SCCS contract proposals for “sunshining”. MSP (Hawthorne/Robles) 7-0, the Board approved the opening of the Sunshine Period.

**Selection of Board Representative for the Cultural Council Meeting**

Superintendent Pagano indicated in his report earlier this evening that a Board Member is requested to attend a Cultural Council Meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. After discussion among the Trustees, Mr. Robles indicated that he would be available to attend this meeting. MSP (Wagman/Collins) 7-0, Mr. Robles was elected to represent the SCCS Board of Education at this meeting.

**BOARD REPORTS & COMMENTS**

**Board President’s Report**

President Dewey Thorsett noted that the March 22<sup>nd</sup> Board Study Session to review the Strategic Plan and discuss goal setting was very productive, and reported that Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> appears to be the best day for a follow-up meeting. SCCS has an opportunity to nominate someone for the CSBA Vice President position – if any Trustee is interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please ask.

**Board Members’ Reports or Comments**

Board Member Hawthorne reported working with the Green Schools Committee – this group is active and ready for Earth Day on April 20. Trustee Hawthorne is excited about the solar energy proposal, and is looking forward to a meeting with food services staff on March 29.

Trustee Maxwell reported that the PACE (Policy Analysis for California Education) is having a meeting in Sacramento to discuss the recent studies which could have a major impact on California education. He also noted that a recent report on the state of the arts in California showed Santa Cruz in a very good light – and we should take time to note our accomplishments in this arena.

Trustee Robles thanked Mr. Maxwell for the update on the upcoming PACE meetings, and would welcome information on date, location, and time. Board Member Robles attended the WASC Reports for Harbor and Santa Cruz High Schools, and the commendations continue to make him proud of how SCCS benefits students. The WASC recommendations/commendations provide the opportunity for district-wide discussion. Mr. Robles also met with COE Superintendent Watkins.

Board Member Collins continues to work on the vision for a career and technical training center for Santa Cruz City Schools. Trustee Collins attended the WASC Report for the SCCS ROP Program, and reported he had never heard such a positive WASC response. Mr. Collins and Mr. Moss have done some research on the possibility of the return of school buses for all students through the Transportation Funding Task Force.

Board Member Wagman attended the Dual Language Immersion Meeting, and would like to have a committee report at a future meeting. Trustee Wagman met with a staff member from Sen. Simitian's office to discuss solar energy, charter schools, and also the SCCS plan to have a second Student Board Representative. Gavilan College and Gilroy School District are exploring the possibilities of collaboration to have high school students graduate in 4 years with both a high school diploma and an AA degree. Mr. Wagman will keep SCCS informed of the progress of such discussion.

Board Member Strimling inquired about having the Soquel Coop Nursery School's ceiling tiles included on the agenda at a future meeting. Trustee Strimling acknowledged the wonderful acceptance rates for SCCS grade 12 students into college programs for Fall 2007.

## **INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS**

### **Information/Discussion**

Mr. Wagman asked for the Board Policy Committee to examine Board Member Insurance coverage.

### **Future Meetings**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at Gault Elementary School. The Board of Education has a scheduled Board Study Session on ZBB on April 25, 2007, in Room 312 at the District Office. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education for May 9, 2007 is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, Room 312.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Dewey Thorsett adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President  
Board of Education