

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

November 8, 2006

Call to Order

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., in the Gault School Multi-Purpose Room, 1320 Seabright Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

John Collins	Rachel Dewey Thorsett	Bruce Neustadter
Mick Routh	Ken Wagman	Tim Willis
Student Ian Magruder		
Absent: Felix Robles		

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 in this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

Agenda Changes

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Gault School Principal Mary Anne James welcomed the Board Members to this site, and introduced Gault Parent/Teacher Alliance Vice President Suzanne Williams to announce the success of the 58th Halloween and “Day of the Dead” Carnival and Parade at Gault School. Ms. Williams reported that an anonymous donor has provided \$10,000 to fund the Spanish enrichment program for native English speakers. Principal James announced that new teachers Bronwyn Wyrsh, Renee Houser, and Charlene Oatey are making a big difference at Gault school. The Pre-K Program recently started at Gault School is very successful, and the Primary Language Program is tailored to fit the needs of the Gault population. Diane Morgenstern introduced SCCS teacher Kathleen Crocetti, who is the recipient of the Northern CA Distinguished Art Teacher of the Year. This award is given to one person each year! Ms. Crocetti reported that a 5-year plan regarding the recommendations for the Arts Program in Santa Cruz City Schools would be presented to the Trustees at a later date. Veronica Lopez-Duran, the Residence Coordinator for affordable housing in the Beach Flats area, requested increased accountability for the Title I funds received at Santa Cruz City Schools. Gault School has applied for “After School Safety Program” funds. Gault Parent Reina Ruiz applauded the donation for the Spanish Program for English speakers, and advocated for an intervention program for

English Learners. Mr. Duffy from the Santa Cruz Little League invited the members of the Latino community to join this organization. Jessica Silverman-Curcio spoke on behalf of more resources for teachers and students at Gault School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pagano thanked Principal James for hosting this meeting, and reported his delight at the success of the implementation of the Pre-K Program. The Superintendent attended the ACSA conference on the 1st and 2nd, and will begin his two-year term as Chair of the Children's Network on January 2, 2007. The Monterey Bay Education Consortium increases the rate of access to higher education for graduating seniors, and addresses the current dilemma for retaining highly qualified teachers. The District will present plans for the Swift Street site to the Board for approval on November 29. The Superintendent offered congratulations to all newly elected Members of the Board of Education, and reported that the new Trustees will be installed on Dec. 13 at Westlake Elementary.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Student Magruder reported attending the Student Leadership Meeting on Monday at Costanoa High School. The students at this site assert that the food prices are high, and the quality of the food is disappointing. Better food is close by – but the campus is closed and students are unable to leave for food purchases. Students are also hopeful that bottled water can be obtained for the campus. Representative Magruder interns for the City Planner, and has been researching the State Bureau of Unclaimed Funds. During this project, Ian found more than \$1000 for Santa Cruz City Schools. This information was turned over to Assistant Superintendent Moss.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Willis moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 25, 2006; Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 72); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 73); Gifts; Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 74); Warrant Register 122-129; Change Orders (Ex. 75); Gault Elementary Discretionary Block Grant Budget (Ex. 76); Consultant Services Agreement – Human Resources (Ex. 77). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to Santa Cruz City Schools District: *Mission Hill Middle School* – Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ronzano have donated a new Dell computer and flat screen monitor valued at approximately \$1,000. *Santa Cruz High School* – Thomas Burke has donated \$500 to be put in the General Fund. **Total value of gifts: \$1,500.** GSCFT President Kirschen asked that the Professional Expert Contract contained in the Classified Personnel Actions be pulled for separate discussion. The Trustees agreed to pull the Professional Expert Contract for the Santa Cruz High School Yearbook Teacher, and place it on the Consent Agenda as a separate item, Item 1.10. Mr. Routh seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote:	Collins - Yes	Dewey Thorsett – Yes	Routh – Yes
Neustadter – Yes	Wagman – Yes	Willis – Yes	
Student Magruder – Yes			

Item 1.10 – Professional Expert Contract for Santa Cruz High School

Mr. Willis moved approval of the Professional Expert Contract for Yearbook Advisor, and Mr. Neustadter seconded this motion. After discussion, the Board of Education approved the contract without dissent. Student Magruder voted yes also. (Ex. 78)

STAFF REPORTS

Women’s Center TAP (TAM) Program

Staff Members from the Walnut Ave. Women’s Center/TAP (TAM) Program reported on the services offered to SCCS and the community. The Center serves 3,000 women, children, and families each year. The Early Childhood Education centers provide opportunities for each child to enter kindergarten prepared for academic and social success, including the SCCS Teen Age Parent Program, which serves infants of teen parents in SCCS. This center is located on the SCHS campus. The SCHS TAP Program has the highest graduation rate in the State of California.

CBEDS Enrollment Report

Mr. Moss reported that CBEDS day is set by the State of California for the first Wednesday in October. This information is used to collect demographic information on students, faculty, and district employees on an annual basis. Overall, the district declined by 188 students, or 2.6% from 2005-06. The projected decline was 165 students. The average decline over the past 10 years has been 3.0%, so 2.6% is below the average over the prior 7 years.

2005-06 Year-End-Report on the Receipt and Expenditure of Developer Fees

Mr. Moss reported that the District collects Developer Fees that are assessed on a square foot basis on new residential and commercial construction within the District. These funds are used to provide school facilities to house and service the growth in student enrollment generated by the new construction. In 2005-06, Developer Fee Revenues were \$521,779 and interest income was \$51,652. Total expenses were \$516,331, leaving an operating surplus of \$57,100. The ending balance on 6/30/06 was \$1,315,446.

Investment Report for the Quarter Ending 9/30/06

Mr. Moss delivered the quarterly report for Investments, Quarter ending 9/30/06. District cash for all funds is on deposit with and is invested by the Santa Cruz Auditor Controller.

**** Note: Board Member Routh left this meeting at 7:45 p.m.**

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Reporting Follow-Up

Mr. Moss reported that at the October 25, 2006 Regular Meeting, the Board of Education was presented with some optional changes that could be made to the process of reporting the budget status to the Board. The purpose of this item is to allow the Board to approve changes for the following items: 1) Interim Reports should include a format that provides a tie-back of the Interim Reports to ZBB budget format, *and* 2) Unrestricted and Restricted funds will be reported separately beginning with the 2006-07 First Interim

Report. MSP (Dewey Thorsett/Neustadter) 4-0-1, the Board of Education approved the Budget Reporting Follow- Up. Mr. Collins cast the “abstain” vote. Student Representative Magruder voted Yes (Ex. 79)

Revised Board Policy 1220.2 Citizen Advisory Committee

Mr. Porras reported this policy was presented to the Board of Education for first reading at the last Regular Meeting, at which time the Trustees requested additional time for review and discussion. The policy is brought forward tonight for final reading and distribution to policy book holders. Mr. Collins moved approval, and Mr. Willis seconded this motion. During discussion, Mr. Collins motioned an amendment to include the first 5 paragraphs on Page 64 of the Board Packet in this policy, and Mr. Willis seconded this motion. During further discussion, Mr. Collins motioned an amendment to exclude the final sentence of paragraph 5 on Page 64 of the Board Packet in this policy, and Mr. Willis seconded this motion. MSP 5-0, the Board approved Amendment #2 to exclude the final sentence of paragraph 5 in this policy. Student Magruder abstained from this vote. MSP 5-0, the Board approved Amendment #1 to include the first 5 paragraphs on Page 64 of the Board Packet in this policy. Student Magruder voted “yes”. MSP 5-0, the Board approved Revised Board Policy 1220.2 Citizen Advisory Committee, and Student Magruder also approved this policy. (Ex. 80)

NEW BUSINESS

Closed Session Action Report

1. The Board approved a mediated settlement agreement between SCCS and West Bay Builders. The terms of the agreement include West Bay Builders will pay the SCCS District \$350,000. This settlement agreement settles a lawsuit between the parties.
2. The Board approved the expulsion of Student 01-06-07.
3. The Board heard an update Re: negotiations with the GSCFT. No action taken.
4. The Board heard an update Re: negotiations with Guest Teachers. No action taken.

Approval of 2007-08 Enrollment Projections and Budget Development and Budget Assumptions

Mr. Moss presented the 2007-08 revenue and expenditure assumptions, and the 2007-08 enrollment projections to the Board Members. Mr. Moss explained that a State Budget would be projected in January 2007, and revised in May 2007, and could change again when the budget is actually adopted in June 2007. For the Elementary District, the projected 4% increase in property taxes was obtained from the tax bills that have been sent and information from the County Auditor. Maintaining the projected staffing ratios over a five year period of time should not be a concern in the Elementary District, but the Secondary District is problematic, as Santa Cruz City Schools continues to decline in the secondary district. Also, bargaining unit agreements are not factored into these projections at all. Superintendent Pagano reported that SCCS is making a deliberate statement early in the budget process regarding the dedication of funding for reduced staffing ratios and maintained that these projections are starting points for budget discussions. The Board must acknowledge that SCCS has a finite amount of money, and

more dollars dedicated to one purpose means less dollars for other purposes. After discussion among the Trustees, District Staff, and Members of the Audience, MSP (Collins/Dewey Thorsett) 5-0, the Board of Education approved the 2007-08 Enrollment Projections and Budget Development and Budget Assumptions. Student Magruder also approved this item. (Ex. 81)

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President Wagman attended the Santa Cruz High School Principal's Coffee, where lots of important information was reported to parents and community. Mr. Wagman also attended the West Side Neighbors Meeting regarding the Swift St. Property, as well as the Noise Study for this property.

**** NOTE: Mr. Willis left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.**

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS OR COMMENTS

Board Member Collins offered congratulations to the newly elected Trustees, and acknowledged a most effective campaign. Trustee Collins appreciates that voters want smaller class sizes and increased teacher salaries, and intends to work toward those goals. Mr. Collins' concerns regarding fiscal projections over five years for SCCS remain the same – and he will continue to put his votes on this Board through the prism of fiscal responsibility. Trustee Collins is hopeful that the new majority in the Senate will increase the chances of an overhaul of NCLB policy. Board Member Collins continues to encourage the staff to move forward to create an academy program at Harbor High School.

**** NOTE: Mr. Collins left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.**

Board Member Neustadter stated that 77% of the Gault School population qualifies for the free and reduced lunch program. Mr. Neustadter will continue to be involved with this school and the English Learner community. Trustee Neustadter reported he is proud of the work that he did on this Board, and he appreciates the time and efforts of all who have participated in this community. Mr. Neustadter concluded his report by stating concerns about communications with the Santa Cruz Sentinel – in his opinion, information that is not clear and retractions that have not been accurate.

INFORMATION & FUTURE MEETINGS

Information/Discussion

The Governing Board Self-Assessment for 2006-07 was distributed. The Governing Board will self assess in eight performance criterion areas: Boardmanship; Setting the District's Direction; Student Learning and Curriculum; Finance and Facilities; Human Resources; Policy and Judicial Review; Collective Bargaining; and Community Leadership.

Future Meetings

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education will take place on November 29, 2006, at 6:00 p.m., in Room 312, District Office, 405 Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. The three

items on the agenda are: 1) Board Self-Evaluation; 2) Bond Oversight Committee Final Report to the Board; 3) 313 Swift St. Plans for approval by the Board of Education.

The Regular Board of Education Meeting on Wednesday, December 13, will include the installation of the New Trustees. This meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m., at the Westlake Elementary School.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken Wagman, President
Board of Education