

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

**February 27, 2008**

**Convene Open Session**

Board President Hawthorne called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Soquel High School Library, 405 Old San Jose Road, Santa Cruz, CA.

**Attendance at Meeting**

Rachel Dewey Thorsett

Cynthia Hawthorne

Don Maxwell

Felix Robles

Wendy Strimling

Ken Wagman

Absent: John Collins

Student Representative Clark

Absent: Student Representative Lerman

Alan Pagano, Superintendent

Tanya Krause, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Diane Morgenstern, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Dick Moss, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Members of the Audience

**Site Welcome**

Soquel Principal Lawrence-Emanuel welcomed all those in attendance, and invited everyone to take particular notice of the student Science and Art work presented throughout the library.

**Welcome and Format**

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

**Agenda Changes**

Superintendent Pagano asked to include 3 additional Personnel Actions to the Consent Agenda Item 1.1 – Certificated Personnel Actions. The Superintendent also asked to move the Closed Session Action Report and General Public Business Item 3.1 *New Business*: Convening the 2008-09 Wellness Committee to the end of the Agenda this evening, to accommodate the audience members who were in attendance to discuss the scheduled employee job-related Resolutions. These changes were approved by the Trustees.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

DeLaveaga Teacher Sharon Maxwell reported the Dual Immersion Program Teachers would like the Trustees to ensure as the program expands to include more grades, participating inter-district transfer students will be granted continued inclusion. GSCFT President Kirschen reported that when Certificated Employees requests for Leaves of

Absence are granted, they come to the Board for approval – but if the requests are denied by Human Resources, they are never presented to the Trustees. President Kirschen asked for this process to be put on a future meeting agenda for discussion.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Pagano reported some of the upcoming events to voice opposition to the Governor’s Budget Proposals: tentative date of March 10 for the County Superintendents’ Press Conference at Santa Cruz High School; a County Superintendents’ meeting with Republican Abel Maldonado; and a late March trip to Sacramento to meet with local Representatives. Since the last Regular Meeting, events/meetings the Superintendent has attended include: DeLaveaga Site Council Meeting; the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Meeting; UCSC Achievement Gap Partnership Meeting; Telephone Conference Meeting arranged by Asst. Supt. Krause with Legislative Analyst/Lobbyist McFadden to discuss measures planned by ACSA regarding the current budget situation; Harbor High School English Learner Reclassification Ceremony. Mr. Pagano noted that the Reclassification Ceremony included nearly 40 students, and offered commendations to Administration and staff members at Harbor High School for their work with English Learners regarding language proficiency and the ability to access core curriculum higher education. The Superintendent reported he will ask for a place on the agenda of each School Site Council Meeting prior to the end of the school year.

### **BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS AND REFERRALS**

#### **Board President’s Report**

Board President Hawthorne is very excited by the goals of the Green Schools Committee. The Watershed Conservation Curriculum will provide innovative programs/curriculum for Grade 5 students, with funding provided by the City of Santa Cruz Water District, California State Parks, and Santa Cruz City Schools. Community partners and District staff will be working together. President Hawthorne also recognized the significant work already being done in Santa Cruz City Schools by Asst. Supt. Moss and the Business Services Division to achieve a Green Business Certification.

#### **Board Members’ Reports or Comments**

Board Member Wagman reported that the addition of the middle and high school students to the Green Schools Committee has been informative for adults. SCCS is looking for student representatives from all sites to work with District staff and Santa Cruz City employees to assist recycling programs. Trustee Wagman attended a February 26 training with Mr. Moss regarding AB1200. The Measure P Campaign is still accepting donations to diminish the campaign deficit.

Board Member Strimling offered congratulations to the Santa Cruz High School Mock Trial Team for their local victory, and wished them well in the State Competition. The Mission Hill Middle School Open House on February 20 was full of great energy and community spirit. Wonderful things are happening in these classrooms for our students. Regarding the Public Comment made by GSCFT President Kirschen: Ms. Strimling

would like an informational report from District Staff regarding Board authority regarding Certificated Leave of Absence Policy.

Board Member Maxwell reported on an article he read about Lincoln High School in San Jose. This magnet school was cited for their academic achievement, which they felt was directly affected by connections made in areas of studies.

Board Member Robles commented on the student work and general attractive appearance of the Soquel Library. All of the SCCS campuses look crisp and clean thanks to the wonderful work of the custodial staffs at the sites. Trustee Robles attended the Delta Charter High School presentation of “Dead Man Walking” at the Cabrillo College Campus. Mr. Robles attended a San Diego Conference sponsored by the National Association for Elected and Appointed Latino Officials. It is good to see both accomplishments and areas of need for this demographic group and there is a great need to make shifts in response to changing demographics.

### **Student Representative Report**

Ms. Clark reported Santa Cruz High School Girls’ Basketball Teams will compete in the CCS final on Friday at 3:00 p.m. The Santa Cruz Mock Trial Team will attend the State Competition in Riverside County, and is seeking donations from interested parties to help cover traveling expenses. Santa Cruz High School is holding auditions for the Spring Musical, and the Alumni Association offered an interesting presentation for Black History Month. The Soquel High School Girls’ Basketball Team CCS Semi-Final against Sacred Heart High School is taking place this evening. The Santa Cruz Teen Center will offer a free Job Fair on March 5 & 6.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Strimling moved approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 6, 2008, and the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 13, 2008 – with a correction to the latter. Mr. Wagman seconded this motion. The motion was approved 5-0-1. Mr. Robles abstained.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 113); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 114); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 115); Warrant Register; Change Orders (Ex. 116); Budget Transfers (Ex. 117); Special Education Contracts (Ex. 118); Contract with Messner & Hadley for Financial Audit Services (Ex. 119); Out of State Field Trip for Santa Cruz High School; Adult School Certificated Instructors Personnel Actions and Course Outlines (Ex. 120). Ms. Strimling seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Dewey Thorsett – Yes	Hawthorne – Yes	Maxwell – Yes
Robles – Yes	Strimling – Yes	Wagman – Yes
		Student Clark – Yes

## **ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED OR DISCUSSED**

### **Superintendent's Statement of Introduction to Employee Resolutions**

Superintendent Pagano reported the educational community, including our bargaining units and administrators, has been charged with fixing a problem we did not create. However, we will work collaboratively to diminish and mitigate budget reductions. Our previous sound fiscal leadership will serve us well during this difficult time, and the community generosity demonstrated in the three active parcel taxes will help ensure that we will maintain and sustain student programs and our committed goals for student learning and achievement. The reductions have been arrived at in a compassionate and sensitive manner, and the intent to rescind preliminary lay-off notices as soon as possible will remain steadfast.

### **New Business: Resolution #18-07-08 Notice of Intent to Dismiss Certificated Employees for 2008-09**

Ms. Krause introduced this resolution to the Board of Education, reporting that the reduced FTEs affect all 14 District sites. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, Mr. Robles moved approval and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Dewey Thorsett – Yes      Hawthorne – Yes      Maxwell – Abstain  
Robles – Yes      Strimling – Yes      Wagman – Yes  
Student Clark – Abstain      (Ex. 121)

### **New Business: Resolution #19-07-08 Determination of District Needs for 2008-09**

Ms. Krause reported pursuant to Education Code Section 44955, the Board of Education determines the District needs in order to deviate from terminating certificated employees in order of seniority. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval and Mr. Robles seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Dewey Thorsett – Yes      Hawthorne – Yes      Maxwell – Abstain  
Robles – Yes      Strimling – Yes      Wagman – Yes  
Student Clark – Yes      (Ex. 122)

### **New Business: Resolution #20-07-08 Determination of Tie-Breaking Criteria for 2008-09**

Ms. Krause reported the Board of Education is required to determine the District needs should it become necessary to establish the seniority of employees who first rendered paid service to the District on the same day. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval, with the following amendment: Criterion #3 – after “... permanent certificated service” the words “in the District” will be inserted before “prior to seniority date in the District”. Ms. Strimling seconded the motion. Ms. Strimling suggested a friendly amendment for Criterion #2 – after “... credentials in core” the words “graduation requirement” will be inserted before “subject areas”. This amendment was accepted by the motion maker and the second, and the friendly amendment became part of the motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Dewey Thorsett – Yes      Hawthorne – Yes      Maxwell – Yes

Robles – Yes                      Strimling – Yes                      Wagman – Yes  
Student Clark – Yes (Ex. 123)

**New Business: Resolution #21-07-08 Notice to Release or Reassign Administrators for 2008-09**

Superintendent Pagano recommended the Board of Education approve Notices that Administrators may be released or reassigned from their present administrative positions for the 2008-09 school year. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval and Ms. Strimling seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Dewey Thorsett – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Maxwell – Abstain  
Robles – Yes                      Strimling – Yes                      Wagman – Yes  
Student Clark – Abstain                      (Ex. 124)

**New Business: Resolution #22-07-08 in the Matter of Releasing Temporary Certificated Employees for 2008-09**

Ms. Krause recommended that the Board of Education approve the Resolution to Release Temporary Certificated Employees for the 2008-09 school year. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, Mr. Wagman moved approval and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

**Roll Call Vote:** Dewey Thorsett – Yes                      Hawthorne – Yes                      Maxwell – Abstain  
Robles – Yes                      Strimling – Yes                      Wagman – Yes  
Student Clark – Abstain                      (Ex. 125)

**New Business: SCCS 2008-09 and 2009-10 Tentative School Calendars, Sideletter Agreement for Comprehensive Elementary Sites-Restructured Wednesdays, Sideletter Agreement for Comprehensive Elementary Sites-Parent Conferences**

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the District Calendars and Sideletter Agreements for 2008-09 and 2009-10. Following discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Public Comments, MSP (Dewey Thorsett/Robles) 5-1, the Trustees approved the SCCS 2008-09 and 2009-10 School Calendars, Sideletter Agreement for Comprehensive Elementary Sites-Restructured Wednesdays, and Sideletter Agreement for Comprehensive Elementary Sites-Parent Conferences. Mr. Maxwell cast the dissenting vote. Student Clark voted yes. (Ex. 126)

**Ratification of District/GSCFT Adult School Contract Language for 2006-07**

Ms. Krause recommended that the Board of Education approve the GSCFT Adult School Contract Language for 2006-07.

**Public Comment:** Adult School Principal Powers acknowledged Hermanita Clark, Mr. Moss, Ms. Lacey, GSCFT President Kirschen, and especially Ms. Krause for their diligent work to bring this item to resolution. MSP (Robles/Wagman) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Ratification of District/GSCFT Adult School Contract Language for 2006-07. Student Clark voted yes. (Ex. 127)

**Break:** Board President Hawthorne called for a short break at 8:23 p.m.

**Reconvene:** Board President Hawthorne reconvened this Regular Meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**New Business: Convening the 2008-09 Wellness Committee**

Superintendent Pagano recommended the Board of Education convene the Wellness Committee as per the guidelines set forth in Board Policy 5030 (a). The Wellness Committee advises the district on health related issues and programs by looking at current standards and practice along with current research. It is recommended that for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year, as well as the 2008-09 school year, the committee be co-chaired by Board President Hawthorne and Student Services Director Eileen Brown, with other members as presented. Mr. Wagman moved approval, with the amendment to add an Adult Education Representative and a GSCFT Representative to the committee members. Mr. Robles seconded this motion. The motion was carried without dissent. Student Clark voted yes.

**Old Business: 2008-09 District Budget**

On February 20, 2008, the Board of Education requested a revised breakdown of the Classified and Non-Personnel Budgets than the one presented by Mr. Moss at that meeting. Per the Board direction, Superintendent Pagano and Mr. Moss presented the revision this evening with columns indicating budget for Classified Personnel, Non-Personnel Items, % of Reduction required, and the Total Reduction in dollars. These column figures were provided for the following departments: Special Education, Transportation, Cafeteria Fund, Central Services, Restricted Maintenance, Elementary, Middle Schools, High Schools, and Small Schools. If the Board approves this revised budget format for reduction discussions, the departments and school sites can begin the necessary stakeholder conversations. The District will advise sites to make reductions with an emphasis on non-personnel items.

**Public Comment:** Classified employee Donna Smith asked the Board of Education to enforce the current negotiated bargaining unit agreement contract regarding Teacher/Student ratio for classes. Classified Negotiator Lowe asked the Board to make the reductions through Non-Personnel items only. Santa Cruz High School Assistant Principal Sharp asked for reinstatements to go first to the positions directly affecting access and equity for English Learners and Special Education students. GSCFT President Kirschen asked the Board of Education to direct the sites to make the reductions in Non-Personnel Items only.

Following questions and discussion among Board Members, Mr. Robles moved approval of the recommended guidelines provided by the Superintendent, with a strong recommendation from the Board of Education to make recommendations in Non-Personnel Items. Mr. Wagman seconded this motion. The motion was passed without dissent. Student Clark voted yes.

**Closed Session Action Report**

The Board took action to expel Student #7-07-08

The Board heard an update and provided direction Re: Anticipated Litigation.

Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Subdivision "B" of Govt. Code Section 54956.9: One Case

The Board received information Re: Collective Bargaining – GSCFT/Adult Ed

The Board received information Re: Collective Bargaining – GSCFT

The Board received information Re: Collective Bargaining – SCCCE including a T/A for the 2007-08 year.

The Board heard an update Re: Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code § 54956.8) Property: 255 Swift Street, Under Negotiation: Terms of Lease

Item: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release Govt. Code § 54957 - Deleted

### **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Information**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for March 12, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Harbor High School, 300 La Fonda Ave., Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education scheduled for April 9, 2008, will start at 6:30 p.m. at Bay View Elementary School, 1231 Bay St., Santa Cruz, CA.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education at this time, Board President Hawthorne adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

Cynthia Hawthorne, President  
Board of Education