

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY DISTRICTS
October 24, 2007**

Call to Order

Board President Dewey Thorsett called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. in the Westlake Multi-Purpose Room, 1000 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

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

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

At 7:00 p.m., the Trustees approved the continuance of Item 3.7 *New Business: 2008-09 Budget Priorities* to the Regular Meeting on November 14, 2007.

SITE WELCOME

Westlake Principal Curley welcomed the Board Members, District Staff, and the members of the audience to the school. Westlake Arts Coordinator Shanda Schwind prepared a multi-media presentation using student art and song to detail the educational benefits of arts standards-based instruction in the classroom.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Santa Cruz High School Principal Edmonds announced National Merit Semifinalists Danielle Qing, Olivia Shull, and Aaron Szasz, and six commended students – Carole Harris-Barnett, Michael Landry, Alayna Manor, Mallory Pickett, Vanessa Silverstein, and Joseph Thomas. Homecoming Week activities at Santa Cruz High School include Powder Puff Football, Rally, Float Building, Parade, Football Games, and the Homecoming Dance. Senior student Max Myers was chosen as KION Scholar Athlete of the Week. Venues to provide communication with school personnel include the Principal's Coffee, ELAC, and PTA. A previous speaker to the Board during Public Communications, student Elda Mesa, was commended for her English language acquisition and her academic performance. Principal James noted that the annual East

Side Parade on Saturday October 27 will be followed by the Gault School Carnival Fundraiser.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Pagano offered commendations for the valuable Trustee and community input received at the Special Board Study Session on October 17 at Harbor High School. The Superintendent spoke highly of the newly energized collaboration between Santa Cruz City Schools and the Santa Cruz County Office of Education. Superintendent Pagano outlined the meetings he had attended on behalf of the district since the last Regular Meeting, and concluded with the information that SCCS will host a 150 year birthday celebration on October 27 at the Coconut Grove Ballroom. Tickets are available at all school sites, and also at the Human Resources office at the District Office.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Dewey Thorsett noted her attendance at the District Facilities Task Force Meeting and also an appearance at the Librarians Meeting to discuss Measure B.

Board Members' Reports

Board Member Hawthorne expressed appreciation to Principal Curley for the presentation showing what has been accomplished with the Arts Funds, and inquired whether Public Television would consider airing this video to demonstrate to the community how their generous tax dollars are utilized. Ms. Hawthorne reported that the District Website design is progressing nicely. Trustee Hawthorne attended the District Facilities Task Force meeting, and encouraged members of the public to join this discussion. Board Member Hawthorne would like to attend a conference in Pasadena regarding "Green Schools".

Board Member Maxwell thanked Principal Curley for the video presentation. Trustee Maxwell received a letter regarding the purchase of P.E. uniforms from overseas vendors without proper work conditions for employees, and would like to review SCCS uniform purchases to ensure we are not supporting such practices.

Board Member Robles attended the Academic Excellence Task Force discussion. Mr. Robles also attended a conference in Southern California focusing on Latino students and their readiness for access and success to college.

Board Member Collins looks forward to attending the 150 year Gala at the Coconut Grove on Saturday October 27. Mr. Collins would like to include Adult Education in the district discussions regarding Career/Technical Education. Congratulations to Harbor High School for the start of the Cross Country Bicycle Team. Trustee Collins saw the Band Review in downtown Santa Cruz on October 20. This event was great fun and Mr. Collins expressed thanks to Santa Cruz High School for hosting this occasion.

Board Member Strimling thanked GSCFT President Kirschen, Superintendent Pagano, and Assistant Superintendent Morgenstern for adjusting the meeting time of the

Academic Excellence Task Force to accommodate her schedule. Ms. Strimling expressed appreciation for the diligent efforts of Superintendent Pagano and Principal Edmonds to publicize the many positive events and accomplishments of Santa Cruz City Schools.

Board Member Wagman enjoyed the Westlake video presentation at the start of this Regular Meeting. Since the last meeting, Trustee Wagman has attended the Librarians Meeting, the Solar Contracts Meetings, the Parcel Tax Measure Meeting, and the Academic Excellence Task Force discussion. Regarding the P.E. clothing purchases, Purchasing Manager Lynn Barry is currently drafting a District Policy for Santa Cruz City Schools purchasing that will cover this topic.

Student Representatives' Reports

Student Lerman reported the Harbor High School Drama Club presentation of "Chalk Garden" during the months of October and November – tickets are \$9. Harbor High School will host a Sports Fundraiser at Moe's Alley, and entertainment will include the Harbor High School Jazz Band. Food will also be provided, and tickets for this event are \$25. Monarch Elementary will host a Fall Carnival on October 30, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Student Clark reported that Homecoming Activities will take place this week during lunch at Santa Cruz High School. The Santa Cruz High School Drama Club will present "The Crucible" in December, and the Santa Cruz High School Girls' Water Polo Team is currently undefeated. Ms. Clark encouraged the community to attend the East Side Parade and Gault Carnival on Saturday, October 27. The Soquel High School Drama Club is currently presenting "Tony and Tina's Wedding".

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP (Maxwell/Wagman) 7-0, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 10, 2007 were approved. The Student Representatives voted yes on this item.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Public Comment: GSCFT President Kirschen questioned whether Item 1.10 Deferral of Developer Fees should be approved, as there was little, if any, benefit to Santa Cruz City Schools employees contained in this proposal.

Board Comment: Trustee Collins asked to pull Item 1.10 Deferral of Developer Fees for a separate discussion and vote.

Board President Dewey Thorsett noted that, regarding Item 1.9, the Contract with Enrollment Projections Consultants, she would like to see a board-level discussion of the finding of the report once it is completed. This item was not pulled for separate discussion/vote.

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 52); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 53); Purchase Orders, Quotes

& Bids (Ex. 54); Warrant Register; Change Orders (Ex. 55); Notices of Completion (Ex. 56); AED Policy & AR 3535.1 (Ex. 56); Consultant Services Agreements (Ex. 57); Contract w/Enrollment Projections Consultants (Ex. 58). Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Robles – Yes
Hawthorne – Yes Maxwell – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

Request for Deferral of Developer Fees

Following discussion, Mr. Maxwell made a motion to deny the Request for Deferral of Fees. Ms. Hawthorne seconded the motion. This motion to deny was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Abstain Dewey Thorsett – Yes Robles – Yes
Hawthorne – Yes Maxwell – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

Closed Session Action Report

The Board heard an update Re: negotiations with The GSCFT and provided direction to staff.

The Board heard an update Re: Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code S 54956.8), Property: 255 Swift Street, Agency Negotiator: Alan Pagano, Negotiating Parties: SCCS and Pacific Collegiate Charter School, Under Negotiation: Terms of Lease

The Board received information as a follow-up to the Superintendent's evaluation.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED AND/OR DISCUSSED

New Business: Resolution #10-07-08 A Resolution Ordering an Election for Voter Approval to Renew an Educational Parcel Tax, Requesting the County Elections Department to Conduct the Election, Requesting the Consolidation of the Election and Specifications of the Election Order

Superintendent Pagano reported that the Public Hearing on this item took place on October 10, 2007. The Resolution has been revised, following input from the community and stakeholders. The Resolution Language has been seen and reviewed by the Board Members, Legal Counsel, Parcel Tax Committee Members, and the Consultants for the measure. The Superintendent strongly supports the revised Resolution.

Public Comment: GSCFT President Kirschen reported that the union supports the revised Resolution and offered commendations to all who worked tirelessly on the revision.

Board Comments: Board Member Wagman remarked the revised Resolution supports Class Size Reduction, Credentialed Library Teachers, and supports the Arts Programs. Trustee Collins asked if the language contained in the revision strengthened the chance for success with voters. The consensus was that more community/stakeholder input traditionally ensures community support. Board Member Strimling expressed strong support for the revised Resolution.

Mr. Maxwell moved approval of the revised Resolution, and Mr. Robles seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 58)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Maxwell – Yes Robles – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

PUBLIC HEARING: Energy Services Contracts

Open: Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Mr. Moss reported that his recommendation included three different Power Purchase Agreements with three separate firms. Generating Assets will perform the work on Soquel High School, and Solar Power Partners will perform work for Santa Cruz High School. UPC Solar will have the contract for Harbor High School, Mission Hill Middle School, Branciforte Small Schools, Bay View Elementary, DeLaveaga Elementary, and Westlake Elementary. Mr. Moss gave a brief summary on the basic elements of each proposal – including start prices, escalators, terms, and the proposed rate terms agreed upon with each firm. Mr. Moss also extended his appreciation to Carl Pechman and Peter Brown for their work on this project, and reported that Mr. Pechman was in the audience and available for questions, and Mr. Brown was available by phone for queries.

Public Comments: GSCFT President Kirschen inquired whether all units would be roof-mounted? Mr. Moss replied yes. SCCCE President Chacanaca expressed approval for the project, but would like to see all SCCS sites included. Mr. Mount with Solar Technologies noted that his firm introduced SCCS to the whole concept of solar power for sites, and the company is very grateful to be one of the participants in this project.

Closed: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 7:49 p.m.

New Business: Resolutions Authorizing Power Purchase Agreements for Solar Voltaic Projects

Following the Public Hearing, the Board Members discussed the Power Purchase Agreements and asked Mr. Moss and Mr. Pechman clarifying questions. The Trustees acknowledged Mr. Moss, Mr. Pechman, and Mr. Brown for their diligent efforts on behalf of Santa Cruz City Schools.

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of Resolution #11-07-08 authorizing the Purchase Power Agreement with Generating Assets, with the understanding that the final engineering aims to ensure that Santa Cruz City Schools does not produce more power value than is used, and this provision be included as a specific item in the Resolution. Mr. Wagman seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote as follows: (Ex. 59)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Maxwell – Yes Robles – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of Resolution #12-07-08 authorizing the Purchase Power Agreement with UPC Solar, with the understanding that the final engineering aims to ensure that Santa Cruz City Schools does not does not produce more power value than is used, and this provision be included as a specific item in the Resolution. Mr. Wagman seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote as follows: (Ex. 60)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Maxwell – Yes Robles – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of Resolution #13-07-08 authorizing the Purchase Power Agreement with Solar Power Partners, with the understanding that the final engineering aims to ensure that Santa Cruz City Schools does not does not produce more power value than is used, and this provision will be included as a specific item in the Resolution. Mr. Wagman seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote as follows: (Ex. 61)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Maxwell – Yes Robles – Yes Strimling – Yes Wagman – Yes
Student Clark – Yes Student Lerman – Yes

New Business: Photovoltaic Systems Site Lease/Easement Agreements

Mr. Moss reported that the site lease/easement agreements allow Generating Assets, UPC Solar and Solar Power Partners to install photovoltaic systems on the sites listed in the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). It requires the Power Providers to notify the District in advance and to obtain District approval prior to accessing sites for maintenance or repair of the equipment. The term of these agreements coincide with the term of the PPAs. MSP (Wagman/Collins) 7-0, the Board approved the Photovoltaic Systems Site Lease/Easement Agreements. Students Clark and Lerman voted yes. (Ex. 62)

Staff Report: CBEDS Enrollment Report

Mr. Moss provided a report to the Trustees regarding CBEDS Enrollment for the 2007-08 school year. This year the CBEDS day was October 3. The information is used to collect demographic information on students, faculty, and district employees on an annual basis. Elementary enrollment increased by 9 students – projected decline was 5 students. Middle School enrollment increased by 22 students – projected decline was 48 students. High School enrollment declined by 57 students – projected decline was 137 students. Small Schools enrollment declined by 74 students – projected decline was 23 students. Overall, the District declined by 100 students (1.4%) – projected decline was 213 students. Total enrollment has declined 20.1% over the last 8 years, for an average decline of 2.76% per year.

Staff Report: Unrestricted Budget vs. Actual Expenses for Month Ending 9/30/07

Mr. Moss delivered a comparison of Unrestricted General Fund Projected Budgets to Actual Expenditures from 7/1/07 through 9/30/07 (25% of the school year). Overall, 16% of the expense budget has been spent in the first 3 months of the fiscal year (and one month into the school year).

New Business: Soquel High School Humanities Academy Course Proposal

Ms. Morgenstern reported that in order to provide a rigorous and relevant series of classes to our high achieving students of all backgrounds, Soquel High School has reorganized its Social Studies classes sequence to include World Geography in Grade 9; Intensive World History in Grade 10; AP U.S. History in Grade 11; and AP Government & Politics and AP Macroeconomics in Grade 12. Soquel High School is now requesting approval for the third new course, AP Macroeconomics. This course would begin being offered in the second semester of the 2007-08 school year. Ms. Morgenstern concluded with the remark that the academic rigor of Soquel High School attracts and retains some of the best and brightest students in Santa Cruz County.

MSP (Collins/Strimling) 7-0, the Board Members approved the new Soquel High School Humanities Academy Course Proposal for Advanced Placement Macroeconomics as submitted. Students Clark and Lerman voted yes on this item.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Information

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2007, 6:30 p.m., Mission Hill MS, 425 King St., Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Meeting for December 12, 2007, is scheduled for Gault Elementary, 1320 Seabright Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Dewey Thorsett adjourned this Regular Meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President
Board of Education