

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY  
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY DISTRICTS  
September 26, 2007**

**Call to Order**

Board President Dewey Thorsett called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the Branciforte Middle School Multipurpose Room, 315 Poplar 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, Education 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**

The Board of Education approved Item 3.12 *Old Business*: Accept Proposal for Phase II and III Solar Projects moved to follow Item 3.2 *New Business*: Survey Polling Results.

**SITE WELCOME**

Branciforte Middle School Principal Munro welcomed the Trustees to the site, and introduced new Assistant Principal Meeker. Students Bryan Monjes, Arthur Chang, and Jada Gilbert delivered a report on the Where Everybody Belongs (WEB) orientation program for new students to the school. In a partnership program with Adult Education, Language Acquisition Classes are taking place at the middle school four nights per week. Alejandra Medina and her son Luis expressed appreciation to the Board Members for the support of English Learners in community.

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Gault Parent Kelly Salazar publicly thanked the Trustees for the addition of a School/Community Coordinator and the Spanish Language classes at Gault School. Activist Marilyn Garrett informed the Board of Education that the German government is now urging citizens to avoid using wireless communication devices, and asked district staff and Board Members to visit [www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org) for further details. Santa Cruz High School parents Steve Carlton and Mardi Douglass advocated the immediate reinstatement of the Cardinal Café program at Santa Cruz High School. This vocational

opportunity provides important life and job skills for the students in Special Day Classes, and also provides opportunities for inclusion and friendship with a wide variety of other students at school. Branciforte Middle School parent Laura Fernandez invited the Trustees and any other interested parties to the October 1 Athletic Field Renovation Committee meeting in the Branciforte Middle School Library. Santa Cruz High School parent Jim Velzy reported his student was attacked upon leaving the campus at 9:00 p.m. last week. He urged the Trustees to consider surveillance cameras at different locations on campus to ensure that students and community members feel safe at school. Santa Cruz High School Assistant Principal Davis reported that Superintendent Pagano had already approved estimates for security camera installations, and the school is moving forward in this area. District GATE Coordinator Sue Grasso reported that the Spanish classes at the middle schools are full and have waiting lists. The SCCS GATE Program received a 3 year approval from the State of California, and is one of only 4 schools in the county to receive this designation.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Pagano offered this update of his recent activities: Community Affairs Committee meeting at the Chamber of Commerce on September 12; Delta School Board meeting on September 13; Facilitation of the first District Facilities/Needs Task Force meeting – and the next meet is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Harbor High School; a very productive Negotiations Team meeting, with thanks to Ms. Krause and all the team members; meeting on September 18 with Trustee Strimling, Ms. Morgenstern, and GSCFT President Kirschen to discuss the formation of the Academic Excellence Task Force – they will meet again prior to the October 10 Board Meeting; the Dual Language Immersion Task Force meeting on September 20; the first District Office Staff meeting of the 2007-08 school year on September 24. The Superintendent attended the Monterey Bay Education Consortium at UCSC on Friday September 21. Mr. Pagano will investigate both the Cardinal Café situation and the security camera estimates at Santa Cruz High School. The Superintendent concluded his report by informing the Trustees that Assemblyman Laird has asked for 10 minutes to address the school community at the Regular Meeting on October 10 – and Mr. Pagano would request a meeting start time of 6:00 p.m. in order to accommodate Mr. Laird.

### **BOARD REPORTS & REFERRALS**

#### **Board President's Report**

President Dewey Thorsett attended the Monterey Bay Education Consortium at UCSC on Friday September 21. Ms. Dewey Thorsett sent an email to Board Members regarding committee participation – this is a way to get Trustees to volunteer for different meetings – not a way to allow those with the most available time to have an inappropriate amount of influence over the business of the district. President Dewey Thorsett would like to schedule Special Study Sessions regarding Budget and Facilities prior to the winter holidays.

### **Board Members' Reports**

Trustee Hawthorne attended the Facilities Committee meeting with Superintendent Pagano. Ms. Hawthorne extended thanks to Mr. Moss, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Wagman, and Mr. Pechman for the diligent efforts regarding the Solar Project Proposals. Board Member Hawthorne has been invited to be a presenter at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Green School Symposium in Pasadena, California, in December 2007. Ms. Hawthorne was very impressed with the Back-to-School Night at Santa Cruz High School.

Board Member Strimling attended Back-to-School Nights at two different schools, and the Monterey Bay Education Consortium at UCSC. Ms. Strimling is very interested in the security situation at Santa Cruz High School and the situation regarding the Cardinal Café, and requests that these two items are included on a future agenda. Trustee Strimling is pleased to hear about the GATE Program 3 year approval – this will be a topic of discussion at the Academic Excellence Task Force meeting. Ms. Strimling concluded with a reminder about the October 20<sup>th</sup> Band Review in Santa Cruz.

Trustee Maxwell extended thanks to all who attended the New Employee Reception at his home. Mr. Maxwell would like to work on a District Calendar to develop more events like this in the future. Board Member Maxwell attended the DeLaveaga School Conflict Resolution session on September 25<sup>th</sup>, and was very impressed with this program. Mr. Maxwell would like a staff evaluation at the conclusion of this program.

Board Member Collins attended the Harbor High School Back-to-School Night. Mr. Collins has enjoyed visiting the Cardinal Café, and would like to ensure that these projects stay well at all sites. SCCS is in the process of applying for some grants from the Federal Government that could be very beneficial for our school community.

In his position as Interim Dean in San Jose, Board Member Robles has been working on a collaboration between Community College and High Schools that includes an American Sign Language course offering on a high school campus through Community College. Mr. Robles visited with the new district teachers, and is very impressed with the quality of these employees.

Board Member Wagman attended the Facilities meeting, the Solar Project meeting, the Dual Language Immersion meeting, and the New Employees Reception. Mr. Wagman would like to acknowledge Ms. Krause for her diligence in bringing such excellent teachers to join the SCCS staff. Trustee Wagman would like to support the Cardinal Café program at Santa Cruz High School. Mr. Wagman attended at fundraiser for the Santa Cruz High School marching band at a local restaurant – and would like to commend all businesses who participate in these fundraising efforts for Santa Cruz City Schools. Board Member Wagman visited the Small Schools campus, and Principal Coleman is doing excellent work on behalf of students.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

Student Representative Clark also attended the restaurant fundraiser for Santa Cruz High School, and it was great. Ms. Clark offered congratulations to the band for the invitation

received to compete in Hawaii. Representative Clark is pleased to hear of the potential new policy at Santa Cruz High School for extracurricular activities to ensure the safe passage of students.

Student Lerman reported that upon the completion of the new stadium in 2008, Harbor High School will dedicate the stadium to Bob Enzweiler. Green and Gold Day club recruitment is taking place soon at Harbor High School. Chaperones are needed for a dance at Harbor High School on September 28.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Regular Minutes of September 11, 2007, and Ms. Strimling seconded this motion. The motion was passed with a vote of 6-0-1, and Mr. Robles abstained from the vote due to his absence from the meeting on September 11.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – *Certificated*; Personnel Actions – *Classified*; Gifts; Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids; Warrant Register; CBET Program Application for 2007-08; 2007-08 Class Size Reduction Funding Application, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pajaro Valley USD; Special Education Contracts; Consultant Services Agreements – Education Services. The Board of Education acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools District: *Costanoa High School* – Clay Madden has donated an office chair and video camera valued at approximately \$200. **Total value of gifts: \$200.** Ms. Hawthorne seconded the motion. This motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

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

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

##### **Staff Report: Visual & Performing Arts Planning Report**

Ms. Morgenstern introduced Arts Facilitator Kathleen Crocetti to present to the Board of Education the revised long-range-plan objectives for the SCCS K-12 Arts programs. Ms. Crocetti presented program objectives and outcomes in the current draft of the new SCCS Visual and Performing Arts plan.

##### **New Business: Survey Polling Results Re: Potential Reauthorization of Measure B1**

Superintendent Pagano introduced Mr. Paul Goodwin, Jared Boigon, and Sarah Stern to present information regarding the survey and polling results. The survey results suggest that voters are willing to support a measure to renew the SCCS B1 Parcel Tax at a rate of \$105 per parcel. The Board of Education provided direction to Superintendent Pagano to proceed with the necessary steps to place the renewal of the B1 Parcel Tax on a future ballot. The Student Representatives concurred.

**Old Business: Accept Proposal for Phase II and III Solar Projects**

Mr. Moss recommended the Board approve the Phase II and Phase III recommendations following firm interviews that were conducted on September 5, 2007. The Solar Committee (Carl Pechman, Ken Wagman, Don Maxwell, Cynthia Hawthorne, and Dick Moss) met on August 30<sup>th</sup> to determine which firms would be interviewed. The committee met 3 times in person – and had/has a continuing email conversation. Approval of the recommendation would allow the District to begin contract negotiations with these firms. The recommendation is to award Solar City the Phase III Santa Cruz High School project, and award the work for all 7 other sites to UPC. MSP (Wagman/Hawthorne) 5-1-1, the Board approved the Proposals for Phase II and III solar projects. Ms. Strimling voted “no”, and Mr. Collins abstained from this vote. Mr. Collins needs additional information about the firm prior to a vote. Students Lerman and Clark voted yes.

**Recess: Board President Dewey Thorsett called for a recess at 8:59 p.m.**

**Reconvene: Board President Dewey Thorsett reconvened this meeting at 9:07 p.m.**

**New Business: 2006-07 Year-End Financial Report & 2007-08 Revised Budget**

Ms. Lacey delivered the 2006-07 Year-End Financial Report, and recommended certification of the 2006-07 Year-End Unaudited Actuals. Mr. Moss reported the details of the 2007-08 Revised Budget. After clarifying questions and discussion, MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the 2006-07 Year-End Financial Report and the 2007-08 Revised Budget. The Student Representatives gave a “yes” advisory vote.

**New Business: Resolution #7-07-08 Recalculated Gann Limit for FY 2006-07 and the Gann Limit calculation for 2007-08**

Mr. Moss reported that this annual resolution has been routinely presented for approval since the passage of Proposition 4 in November 1979. The worksheet recalculates the prior year (2006-07) Gann Limit based on actual ADA and revenues, and calculates the current year 2007-08 Gann Limit based on projected ADA and budgeted revenues. Mr. Maxwell moved approval, and Mr. Collins seconded the motion. This motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

**PUBLIC HEARING: Sufficient Textbooks and Instructional Materials Fiscal Year 2007-08**

**Open:** Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 9:41 p.m.

Ms. Morgenstern reported that Santa Cruz City Schools follows the requirements and the procedures for textbook and instructional materials expenditures in compliance with Education Code 60117 et seq.

**Public Comments:** None

**Close:** Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 9:43 p.m.

**New Business: Resolution #5-07-08 Sufficiency of Textbooks and Instructional Materials in the Elementary District FY 07-08 and Resolution #6-07-08 in the Secondary District**

**Resolution #5-07-08:**

Mr. Wagman moved approval, and Mr. Robles seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

**Resolution #6-07-08:**

Mr. Wagman moved approval, and Mr. Robles seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

**PUBLIC HEARING: Academic Performance Index & Adequate Yearly Progress Results**

**Open:** Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 9:46 p.m.

Ms. Morgenstern delivered an analysis of the Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Performance (AYP) for both the Elementary and Secondary Districts. SCCS has made impressive gains in student results this past year.

**Public Comments:** None

**Close:** Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 10:06 p.m.

**Old Business: Reauthorization of No Child Left Behind**

Ms. Strimling moved for the Board of Education to direct Superintendent Pagano, Ms. Morgenstern, and a Board Member to be appointed by President Dewey Thorsett to visit local Representative Farr and present SCCS API and AYP information in order to further his understanding of this issue for the discussion of the Reauthorization of NCLB. Mr. Robles seconded the motion. This motion was carried without dissent. Student Representatives Lerman and Clark also voted yes.

**Old Business: Budget Finance Advisory Committee (BFAC) Recommendation**

Superintendent Pagano recommended that the Board approve the reconvening of the Board/District Budget and Finance Committee for 2007-08. Mr. Pagano referred to the September 11, 2007 Superintendent's Goals and Objectives for the 2007-08 year:

**Goal 3:**

- To effectively manage and oversee the District budget to best reflect the District mission and goals.

**Objective:**

- Maintain financial accountability and budget integrity
- Develop and recommend budgets in support of and in response to teaching and learning objectives

**Activities:**

- Establish a budget process that is timely and clear
- Establish and meet regularly with the Board/District Budget and Finance Committee
- Bring accurate and current information and recommendations to the Trustees

**Expressed Outcomes:**

- Identify potential expenditure reductions
- Identify additional sources of revenue
- Periodically present budget recommendations and updates to the Board of Education in an advisory capacity

**Methodology:**

- Primarily Zero-Based Budgeting
- Meetings will be structured to allow time for Public input

MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board approved the reconvening of the Budget Finance Advisory Committee (BFAC). Student Representatives Lerman and Clark voted yes.

**New Business: 1994 Certificates of Participation**

This item was tentatively rescheduled for the Regular Meeting on October 24, 2007.

**New Business: Academic Excellence Task Force**

This item was rescheduled for the Regular Meeting on October 10, 2007.

**Information**

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is October 10, 2007, 6:00 p.m., Bay View Elementary, 1231 Bay St., Santa Cruz, CA. This meeting will have an early start time of 6:00 p.m. to accommodate Assemblyman Laird's comments to the community. The meeting for October 24, 2007 will be at Westlake Elementary, 1000 High Street, Santa Cruz, and will start at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Dewey Thorsett adjourned this Regular Meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Pagano, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President  
Board of Education