

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
January 13, 2010**

Convene Open Session

Board President Dewey Thorsett called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. in the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Board Room., 400 Encinal, Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

Rachel Dewey Thorsett Wendy Strimling Cynthia Hawthorne
Claudia Vestal Ken Wagman John Collins

Absent: Don Maxwell

Student Representative Morris Student Representative Medeiros

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Tanya Krause, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Diane Morgenstern, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Alvaro Meza, 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

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

SCCCE President Lowe reported she is a member of the SCCS Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Lowe commended Mr. Meza for his willingness to listen to ideas from and discuss policy with Committee Members regarding budget issues. Santa Cruz Education Foundation Board Member Suz Howells reported the SCEF received two \$5000 grants during the month of December; one from the Palo Alto Medical Foundation, and the second from the Bright Horizons, a Community Foundation Fund. Dr. Jim Logsdon requested a response in writing from the District Office to provide clarification regarding the Board Policy on requirements regarding holding the position of Board President. Santa Cruz City Council Member Tony Madrigal extended thanks to those Board Members who have met with him in recent weeks to discuss local youth issues, and requested that those Trustees who have not yet had the opportunity to respond to his invitation email him as soon as possible to set a time. Mr. Madrigal also advocated for a joint meeting of the City Council/SCCS Board of Education to discuss topics of mutual local interest.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom was pleased to report that California Business for Educational Excellence, a statewide organization, has recognized Westlake Elementary School based on student achievement as demonstrated through standardized assessments. Food Services Director Smith and staff have completed the State CRE (Coordinated Review Effort) Audit with excellent results. The Superintendent has visited sites, observed Professional Development and classroom instruction, and attended a parent club meeting. There are many dedicated teachers, parents, and administrators in our district. Mr. Bloom reported the Board Recording Secretary is no longer a paid position – Ms. Lentz will work during the Board Meetings as part of her regular schedule, and adjust daytime work hours as necessary to accommodate the meeting schedule. Superintendent Bloom reported a District Office break-in and robbery during the last weekend. The Superintendent acknowledged Sentinel Reporter J.M. Brown for his fair and accurate reporting on the matters of Santa Cruz City Schools. Mr. Brown will be moving to another assignment, and SCCS welcomes Sentinel Reporter Megha Satyanarayana to this position. The local press contributes greatly to our school community.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Dewey Thorsett reported a meeting with Santa Cruz City Council Member Tony Madrigal, and attendance at the District Budget Advisory Committee.

Board Members' Reports and Referrals

Trustee Collins met with Council Member Madrigal, and would like to schedule a joint City Council and Board of Education meeting. Board Member Collins acknowledged Harbor High School Principal Davis for his outstanding work this year. Mr. Collins will attend a California Workforce Association (CWA) meeting in Long Beach next week. CWA promotes and enhances local workforce development partnerships in California. This meeting will specifically target at-risk youth. Trustee Collins asked Superintendent Bloom to meet with COE Superintendent Watkins to discuss possible collaborative programs for Summer School 2010.

Board Member Hawthorne will attend the Santa Cruz County School Boards dinner and meeting on January 14th at Scotts Valley High School. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss the budget issues faced by school districts.

Board Member Wagman has been spending a lot of time studying the State Budget. Trustee Wagman will be meeting with Principals in the coming weeks, and looks forward to learning more about site programs and achievements.

Board Member Strimling would also like to schedule a joint City Council and Board of Education meeting in the future. Trustee Strimling asked community members to save the date of February 27 for a Santa Cruz High School Band Boosters Fundraiser "Casino Night".

Student Representatives' Reports

Student Morris reported that the Homecoming Basketball games at Santa Cruz High School last week were well attended. Finals will take place at Santa Cruz High January 19 – 22, and the SCHS Library is hosting a Study Fest.

Student Medeiros reported that the collection of student survey information regarding school budget issues is not yet complete, so the report on this matter will be presented at the Regular Meeting on January 27, 2010.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP 6-0 (Wagman/Collins) the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 2, 2009. Student Representatives Morris and Medeiros voted yes.

MSP 6-0 (Collins/Wagman) including a correction noted and previously amended by the Recording Secretary, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2009. Student Representatives Morris and Medeiros voted yes.

MSP 5-0-1 (Collins/Wagman) the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the SCCS Financing Authority Meeting of December 9, 2009. Ms. Hawthorne and both Student Representatives abstained from this vote due to absence from the meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Wagman moved approval (including a correction of the dollar amount in Item 1 in the Purchase Order Addendum) of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 96); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 97); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 98); Warrant Register – Batch Numbers 114-126 (Ex. 99); Valerie Macken – Listing Agreement (Ex. 100); Gifts (Ex. 101); SSA Contract Re: SCHS Pool Demo Electrical Work (Ex. 102); Quarterly Williams Report (Ex. 103); CSA Bay View (Ex. 104). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools District: *Westlake Elementary* – Thuy and Jaipal Tuttle donated an Apple Power PC G5; Dean Silvers donated Japanese and Chinese art work and history kits; Erica and William Ow donated school supplies; Erica and William Ow, Nicholas and Heidi Marini, and Laura and Jared Bogaard donated an equipment shed; Kathy Dunn donated a bookcase. *Soquel High School* – Mr. and Mrs. Mike Quinn donated forty (40) cases of copy paper. *Branciforte Small Schools* – Kathy Dunn donated three bookcases. Mr. Collins seconded this motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Strimling – Yes Vestal – Yes Wagman – Yes

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

Closed Session Action Report

1. The Board approved the Expulsion of Student 20-09-10. Vote 6-0
2. The Board received an update regarding negotiations with the GSCFT for 2010-11 and provided direction for the Superintendent.

3. The Board received an update on negotiations with GSCFT Adult Education for 2009-10 and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom.
4. The Board approved Settlement Agreement OAH Case Nos. 2009050193. Vote 6-0.
5. The Board received information regarding the Layoff/Reduction of Hours/Months in the Classified Service.
6. The Board approved as recommended the Leave of Absence requests. Vote 6-0.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

New Business: Acceptance of 2008-09 Audit

Mr. Meza reported the District is required to have an independent financial audit performed annually in accordance with audit standards established for K-12 schools by the State Controller. The Audit is due to the County Office of Education and the State Controller by December 15. There were 2 audit findings in the 2008-09 Audit, neither of which were apportionment related. Cindra J. Hadley, CPA, of Messner & Hadley, LLP, was available to discuss the audit findings and answer questions from the Trustees. Following questions and comments from the Board Members, MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 6-0, the Board of Education accepted the 2008-09 Audit Report from Messner & Hadley, LLP. Students Morris and Medeiros voted yes.

Staff Report: Report on Governor's Proposed 2010-11 Budget

Mr. Meza reported on the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2010-11. Items discussed included: Proposition 98; Revenue Limit COLA; Enrollment; Deficit Factor; Mandates; Categorical COLA; Other significant policy reforms; next steps for SCCS. As this report was an informational item only, no action was taken by the Board of Education.

New Business: Action & Report on Food Services

Mr. Meza recommended that the Trustees approve termination of the Revolution Foods contract effective February 15, 2010, and introduced Food Services Director Smith to present additional information and timelines, and answer questions. Mr. Smith shared findings from the Coordinated Review Effort (CRE) Audit information, a transition timetable for full implementation of student meal preparations, and asked for approval of the recommendation to end the contract with Revolution Foods on February 15, 2010.

Public Comments: SCCCE Vice President Chacanaca commended the work of Director Smith, and offered full support for the recommendation.

Following further Board discussion and questions, MSP (Hawthorne/Wagman) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the recommendation to terminate the Revolution Foods contract on February 15, 2010. Students Morris and Medeiros voted yes.

New Business: Approval of Single Plans

Curriculum and Assessment Director James reviewed the annual Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for those schools that participate in any state or federal program included in the State's Consolidated Application. The plan, which is developed with the input of the School Site Council, must describe how the school will spend funds received through the Consolidated Application to improve student achievement. Reports included information on measured success of goals from 2008-09 and new goals for 2009-10. Single Plans are also

posted on the District Website by school. MSP (Hawthorne/Wagman) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Single Plans for Student Achievement as submitted. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

Recess: Board President Dewey Thorsett called for a short recess at 8:13 p.m.

Reconvene: Board President Dewey Thorsett reconvened this meeting at 8:23 p.m. *Note: Student Medeiros left at the break.

New Business: 2010-11 Summer School

Ms. Morgenstern reported that Supplemental Hourly Program that has funded summer school underwent two significant changes in 2009 resulting in a nearly 50% reduction in funding for summer school classes. Ms. Morgenstern outlined a smaller program for SCCS that would target those students in highest need of summer instruction. A Primary Literacy Academy at Gault Elementary School (K-2 and Special Education) and High School English and Extended School Year (ESY) Special Education classes at Harbor High School were the recommended offerings from Ms. Morgenstern. These classes would have fewer days than previous years, and start later in the summer to support a more effective intervention for targeted students. Following Board questions and discussion, and comments from the Public, Ms. Hawthorne moved approval, with the amendment that Ms. Morgenstern try to add math classes for targeted students. Ms. Vestal seconded the motion, and this motion was passed without dissent. Student Morris voted yes.

New Business: First Reading – Mandated Policies

The Governing Board has agreed to update policies and place them online in consultation with the California School Boards Association. Superintendent Bloom asked the Board of Education to approve the submitted revised policies to second reading and proposed adoption at the Regular Meeting on January 27, 2010. The Superintendent thanked Board Members Maxwell and Strimling for their careful review of this first group of required policies. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 6-0, the Board approved the revised policies to second reading and adoption at the Regular Meeting on January 27, 2010.

Staff Report: Revised Enrollment Projections for 2010-11

Mr. Meza presented the revised enrollment figures, which included some movement among the placement of students at the high school sites. These revised figures did not represent any actual changes in the total numbers of projected students. As this item was presented to the Trustees for informational purposes only, no action was taken by the Board of Education.

*Note – Student Morris left the meeting after the completion of this item.

Staff Report: Adult Education Fees Impact

On July 29, 2009, the Board of Education adopted a revised fee schedule for Adult Education. In taking that action, the Board of Education requested a staff report on the impact of the new fees. Adult School Principal Powers reported an enrollment increase in 2009-10: however; this increased enrollment has been accompanied by a decline in revenues. This week, 31 English as a Second Language (ESL) students declined to continue classes due to inability to pay fees. Also, some of the arts classes have reported a loss of students due to the increased fees. Some of these students are able to find similar classes at other locations for a lesser fee. As this item was

presented to the Trustees for informational purposes only, no action was taken by the Board of Education.

New Business: Resolution 15-09-10 Layoff/Reduction of Hours/Months in the Classified Service

Ms. Krause reported that in previous years, the Santa Cruz Council of Classified Employees, Local 6084, has negotiated a Side Letter Agreement for Officer (President) release. In December 2009, the SCCCE Local 6084 notified the district of their inability to afford the Officer release and requested the District place the officer back into his bargaining unit classification effective January 2010. The ‘officer on release’ is to be placed back into his previous bargaining unit classification. The least senior employee in that classification is the ‘placeholder’ for that position. The ‘placeholder’ has seniority in another classification; therefore, bumping rights will be exercised. With the passing of this Resolution, the layoff and reduction of hours notifications will be sent and employee bumping rights will be exercised. Mr. Collins moved approval, and Ms. Hawthorne seconded the motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – Yes
Strimling – Yes Vestal – Yes Wagman – Yes

New Business: Opening of Sunshine Period for SCCS Proposals to GSCFT, K-12 Unit for the 2010-11 School Year

Ms. Krause reported in accordance with the Employees Relations Act for public notice of contract proposals before official negotiations may begin, the 2010-11 Santa Cruz City Schools contract proposals are being submitted for “Sunshining” at this meeting. MSP (Wagman/Hawthorne) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Santa Cruz City Schools 2010-11 Contract proposals to the Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers K-12 Unit for “Sunshining”.

New Business: Opening of Sunshine Period for SCCS Proposals to SCCE for the 2009-10 School Year

Ms. Krause reported in accordance with the Employees Relations Act for public notice of contract proposals before official negotiations may begin, the 2009-10 Santa Cruz City Schools contract proposals are being submitted for “Sunshining”. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Santa Cruz City Schools 2009-10 Contract Proposals to the Santa Cruz Council of Classified Employees Local 6084, for “Sunshining”.

Information

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is January 27, 2010, 6:30 p.m., Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Board Meeting scheduled for February 10, 2010, will be held at 6:30 p.m., Santa Cruz County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal, Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President
Board of Education