

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
June 16, 2010**

Convene Open Session

Board President Dewey Thorsett called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. in the Santa Cruz District Office Board Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

Student Representative Medeiros

Gary Bloom, Superintendent

Tanya Krause, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Alvaro Meza, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Diane Morgenstern, Assistant Superintendent, Educational 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

Superintendent Bloom asked to add the resignation of District Maintenance Supervisor Ron Brady to Consent Agenda Item 1.2, Classified Personnel Actions. The Board determined that this item had come to the attention of the District Administration after the printing/posting of the Agenda for this meeting, and approved addition of the item to the Classified Personnel Actions.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Retired teacher Marilyn Garrett asked the Board to remove wireless computer access for students in Santa Cruz City Schools. GSCFT Representative/Bay View Teacher Ballaban expressed concern regarding the number of students in DeLaveaga Kindergarten classes. Several staff and community members expressed concern regarding retaining a .50 FTE LMT at Gault Elementary School. Dr. Jim Logsdon commended the Branciforte Middle School students and staff for a fine promotion ceremony.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom acknowledged our two Student Representatives for the 2009-10 school year, Kai Medeiros and Nick Morris, and presented certificates signed by the Santa Cruz City Schools Board President and Superintendent. Mr. Bloom also recognized in attendance at this meeting former Santa Cruz High School student/Student Board Representative Rebecca Clark. Ms. Clark is currently a sophomore at Columbia University in New York. The Superintendent congratulated Assistant Superintendent Krause for outstanding service to this district over the

last 13 years, and congratulated the SCCS community for a very successful school year in the face of many challenges.

BOARD REPORTS and REFERRALS

Board President's Report

President Dewey Thorsett acknowledged the Student Trustees and presented Ms. Krause with a box of chocolates to acknowledge her outstanding service to SCCS. Ms. Dewey Thorsett also reported attending a number of SCCS graduation ceremonies.

Board Members' Reports and Referrals

Board Member Collins attended several graduation/promotion ceremonies. Mr. Collins would like a more inclusive plan for gathering budget input from all stakeholders and a more constructive process with the bargaining units for the coming year. Trustee Collins will barrels of books via Goodwill Industries donations for the elementary schools. Mr. Collins thanked Ms. Krause for her service.

Board Member Maxwell attended some graduation/promotion ceremonies. Mr. Maxwell commended retiring Student Representative Kai Medeiros and also Ms. Krause and Ms. Barrow.

Board Member Vestal attended several graduation/promotion ceremonies and was especially moved by the Adult School ceremony. Ms. Vestal would like to volunteer some time at the Gault Elementary School library.

Board Member Hawthorne reported the Fixing School Food Group is working on a merger with another service organization with the goal of providing all K-5 Santa Cruz County children with a Universal Breakfast. Ms. Hawthorne thanked Ms. Krause for all the "heavy lifting" during her years at SCCS, and acknowledged the Student Representatives for their fine work this year.

Board Member Wagman attended the ARK and Branciforte Middle School graduation/promotion ceremonies, and was especially impressed by the amount of work accomplished by the site Principals. Mr. Wagman thanked Ms. Krause and Student Representative Medeiros, and urged all community members to vote for John Laird on June 22.

Board Member Strimling reported the June 22nd election will have an effect on school budgets, and urged everyone to get out and vote. Ms. Strimling attended three graduation/promotion ceremonies. Trustee Strimling thanked Ms. Krause and Student Representative Medeiros.

Student Representative Report

Student Medeiros reported he graduated high school last week, and thanked all teachers, administrators, board members, and other students who helped him along the way.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Mr. Collins offered a correction to his Board Report from the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2010. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the corrected Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2010 and Mr. Wagman seconded the motion. The

Trustees approved the motion 7-0, and Student Representative Medeiros abstained from the vote.

2. MSP (Collins/Strimling) 7-0, the Board approved the Minutes of the SCCS Financing Authority Meeting of May 26, 2010. Student Medeiros abstained from this vote.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated; Personnel Actions – Classified; Purchase Orders; Warrant Register; Budget Transfers; Resolution 38-09-10 Authorized Signature; Resolution 39-09-10 Supt./Asst. Supt. To Accept Bids; DES-Architectural Services for Portable Classrooms @ Small Schools Campus; Notices of Completion; Change Orders; Resolution 37-09-10 Transitions Program/Workability Grant; Soquel High School Vocational Ed. Ag. Grant; Consolidated Application I; Special Education Contracts – Non Public Agency; AP Computer Science Course Proposal; Gifts; 2nd Reading and Adoption for Board Policy & Administrative Regulation 3515.5 Sex Offender Notification; Facility Use Agreement with PCS for 255 Swift St., Santa Cruz. The Board of Education acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gifts donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools: *Santa Cruz High School* – Anonymous donation of \$10,000.00 was made to the General Fund; *Mission Hill Middle School* – Wright Services donated equipment (Frisbees) to the Physical Education department. Mr. Wagman seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Closed Session Action Report

1. The Evaluation of the Superintendent process was completed this evening.
2. The Board received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the GSCFT K-12 for 2010-11.
3. The Board received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the GSCFT Adult Education for 2009-10.
4. The Board received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE for 2009-10.
5. The Board received an update from and gave direction to Superintendent Bloom regarding the Meet and Confer units: AMA; Confidential; Supervisors.
6. The Board of Education approved all Certificated Leaves, Resignations, and Retirements as submitted with a vote of 7-0.
7. The Board approved the draft lease agreement prepared by SCCS legal counsel regarding the occupation of the property at 255 Swift Street in Santa Cruz by PCS.

8. The Board of Education approved with a vote of 7-0 the appointments of:
 - a) Edward Williams, Assistant Principal, Santa Cruz High School
 - b) Desiree Dominguez, Human Resources Manager, Certificated, District Office
9. The Board and Cabinet discussed the Settlement Agreement: OAH Case No. 2010020274

ITEMS of BUSINESS to be TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Staff Report: Food Services

Mr. Meza introduced Food Services Senior Manager Smith to report to the Trustees. Information presented included highlights regarding scratch cooking at all sites; projected budget surplus; new website (<http://district.schoolnutritionandfitness.com/santacruzcs>); average daily participation; outreach and marketing; food policy goal update; goals and strategies for nutrition education. This report was informational only, and no actions were taken by the Board.

Staff Report: Advanced Placement Classes

Ms. Morgenstern introduced Curriculum & Assessment Director James to report to the Trustees. The report included information regarding AP classes, enrollment demographics, and exam participants and results.

Staff Report: District Algebra Options

Ms. James reported to the Trustees regarding district Algebra course pass rates, short term accommodations, long term reforms, and plans to increase district student success in Algebra.

New Business: Algebra Standards Course Proposal

Ms. James reported that Santa Cruz High School will pilot this course in the 2010-11 school year, in order to serve the needs of students in grades 11 and 12 who have not met the Algebra I graduation requirement after multiple attempts. The course will follow the state standards through a modification of both the pace and complexity of multistep equations. Students will use the adopted Algebra instructional text along with supplemental materials and group centered lessons. MSP (Hawthorne/Wagman) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Santa Cruz High School Algebra Standards Course Proposal.

*Note: Student Representative Medeiros left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Recess: Board President Dewey Thorsett called for a short recess at 8:35 p.m.

Reconvene: Board President Dewey Thorsett reconvened this meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Staff Report: District Technology Plan

Ms. Morgenstern introduced Information Technology Director Susan Doucette and Education Technology Coordinator Suzanne Orcutt to report to the Trustees. Santa Cruz City Schools will use technology to support all students to be ready to be college and career ready; develop a culture of student data-driven instruction; create a two-way home-school connection; develop Cyber ethics and Internet safe K-12 curriculum. Technology integration in schools is part of the STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Math) Initiative that explores the potential of partnerships and resources to enhance existing comprehensive STEM high school courses. Increasing bandwidth and maintaining and upgrading site computers and peripherals are also being considered.

PUBLIC HEARING: Branciforte Middle School Notice of Initial Study

Open: Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 8:54 p.m.

Mr. Meza provided background information to the Trustees and members of the audience. SCCS is planning a facility improvement project that will install an all-weather track and artificial turf on part of the existing playing fields at Branciforte Middle School. The initial study finds that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment with the implementation of mitigation measures contained in the report. The District intends to adopt a Negative Declaration per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Board is required to conduct a public hearing to allow for public comment on the initial environmental study of the project prior to adopting the Negative Declaration.

Public Comments: None

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 8:56 p.m.

New Business: Negative Declaration for Branciforte Middle School Field Improvements

MSP (Hawthorne/Wagman) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Negative Declaration of the Initial Study for Branciforte Middle School field improvements.

PUBLIC HEARING: Tentative Agreement Between GSCFT K-12 and SCCS: Disclosure of Costs

Open: Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 8:56 p.m.

Mr. Meza reported the Board of Education is required by AB1200 to make this agreement available to the public, to publicly disclose its costs and to conduct a public hearing to receive public comments on this agreement prior to approval.

Public Comments: None

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 8:57 p.m.

New Business: GSCFT K-12 Contract for 2010-11

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the agreement between the GSCFT K-12 and SCCS for 2010-11. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 7-0, the Trustees approved the GSCFT K-12 Contract for 2010-11.

PUBLIC HEARING: Tentative Agreement Between SCCCE & SCCS: Disclosure of Costs

Open: Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 8:59 p.m.

Mr. Meza reported the Board of Education is required by AB1200 to make this agreement available to the public, to publicly disclose its costs and to conduct a public hearing to receive public comments on this agreement prior to approval.

Public Comments: None

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 9:00 p.m.

New Business: SCCCE Contract for 2009-10 and 2010-11

Ms. Krause recommended approval of the contract. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the SCCCE Contract for 2009-10 and 2010-11.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2010-11 Budget

Open: Board President Dewey Thorsett opened this Public Hearing at 9:01 p.m.

Mr. Meza reported the District must adopt its budget by June 30. Once the State enacts a budget, SCCS will have 45 days to revise its budget, if necessary. The State budget crisis has created a daunting challenge for the District, but through continuous collaborative efforts, and the revamp of our CORE budget process, our District has ensured that our CORE values remain despite the severe loss in funding.

Public Comments: The Trustees heard a group presentation in support of the PENS, and two speakers from Adult School asking the Board Members to remember these programs when funding is once again available.

Close: Board President Dewey Thorsett closed this Public Hearing at 9:39 p.m.

New Business: 2010-11 Budget

Mr. Meza recommended that the Trustees approve the 2010-11 Budget and Certifications. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Santa Cruz City Schools 2010-11 Budget and Certifications.

New Business: Facilities Use Fees

On September 28, 2010 the Board approved an increase to Facility Use Fees. The California Education Code Section 38131, together with SCCS Administrative Regulation (AR) 1330 establishes a civic center at each public school facility. Although the use of the facility fees was approved, the AR 1330 had not been updated since 1990. The AR 1330 has been revised and updated based on input from athletic directors, site administrators, and the facilities and grounds department. "Reduced Fee Status" shall only be granted on an annual basis, by the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, or designee. Following discussion, MSP (Hawthorne/Maxwell) 5-2, the Board of Education approved the revised Facilities Use Fees. Mr. Collins and Mr. Wagman voted "No".

New Business: Board Meeting Calendar/Meeting Locations

Following a lively discussion, Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the Board Meeting Calendar/Meeting Locations as submitted, and Ms. Vestal seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-1-2. Mr. Collins voted "No" and Ms. Strimling and Mr. Maxwell abstained from this vote.

New Business: Meet and Confer Agreement - Confidential

Superintendent Bloom reported that the 8 day reduction to the work year calendar and modified benefits proposed for these five unrepresented employees are consistent with modifications being implemented with other employee groups. Additionally, the agreement allows the current provision of up to seven years of retiree benefits to be accessed three years earlier at no additional cost to the district. MSP (Maxwell/Collins) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Meet and Confer Agreement with Confidential Employees as submitted.

New Business: Meet and Confer Agreement – Supervisors

Superintendent Bloom reported that the 8 day reduction to the work year calendar and modified benefits proposed for this one unrepresented employee are consistent with modifications being implemented with other employee groups. MSP (Maxwell/Strimling) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Meet and Confer Agreement with Supervisors as submitted.

New Business: Meet and Confer Agreement – Management

Superintendent Bloom reported that there are 35 unrepresented management employees in this district. A 9 day calendar reduction has already been implemented for this group, and the recommended agreement is consistent with benefits modifications being implemented for other employee groups. Managers will be allowed to carry forward up to five excess work days to subsequent years. In order to accommodate the PERS rules, reduce the classified managers' salaries by the equivalent of 9 days *per diem*, reduce the work calendar by 7 days, and increase allowable number of personal leave days for classified managers by 2. MSP (Wagman/Collins) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Meet and Confer Agreement with Management as submitted.

Information

1. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is July 28, 2010, 6:30 p.m., District Office, Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.
2. The Regular Meeting scheduled for August 11, 2010, will be held at the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA.
3. The Regular Meeting on August 25, 2010, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trustees, Board President Dewey Thorsett adjourned this Regular Meeting at 10:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Rachel Dewey Thorsett, President
Board of Education