

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY DISTRICTS
October 28, 2009**

Convene Open Session

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in the Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

Absent: Cynthia Hawthorne

Student Representative Morris

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

Agenda Changes

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Santa Cruz High School Principal Edmonds welcomed the Board of Education, District staff, and members of the audience. Ms. Edmonds acknowledged the school district and community support offered over the past difficult weeks, and reported the school and community feel very connected to each other as a result of trying to understand the incident. Several students from the District Workability Program thanked the Trustees for the continued support, and distributed a sample bag containing some of the products made through the Program. Santa Cruz Adult School teacher Peggy Miles and several of her international citizenship and culture students reported on the importance of the Adult School ESL Program. These speakers invited the Board Members to visit and experience the Adult School ESL Program at any time, and urged continued SUPPORT. Dr. Logsdon reported a prompt and professional response from Soquel High School administrators for a family in need of counseling. Dr. Logsdon also visited some of the outstanding ROP classes offered at SCCS schools, and was impressed with the level of vocational curriculum available to students. A representative from the cooperative nursery school that offers services to parents in the Adult School thanked the Board

Members for their continued support of these valuable services, and invited the Trustees to visit at the Open House on Saturday, November 7.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom recognized Principal Edmonds and Santa Cruz High School staff, and also the District Office staff for the professional handling of the recent off-campus incident that resulted in the loss of a student life. The Governing Board can be proud of the swift exhibit of support and competency displayed by SCCS employees, and the Superintendent will work with Student Services Director Brown to address issues brought to light during this community outreach. Also, the Santa Cruz Police Department will offer workshops at various school sites during the school year. Superintendent Bloom will continue to visit schools sites regularly with GSCFT President Kirschen. Under the leadership of Mr. Meza, the Facilities Task Force will bring a 10-year plan to the Trustees. The Santa Cruz High School Solar Project is now completed, and Branciforte Middle School will be the final site scheduled for solar project work. Today, the Superintendent attended an event at the UCSC Garden.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Wagman attended the Wellness Committee Meeting, and the New Teachers Project breakfast. The New Teachers Project enables expert teachers to offer support and mentorship to new teachers.

Board Members' Referrals and/or Reports

Board Member Collins asked for a moment of silence to remember the Santa Cruz High School student who was recently lost. Mr. Collins would like to reinstate joint meetings with the SCCS Board of Education and the Santa Cruz City Council to discuss common community issues. Trustee Collins encourages all community members to enjoy the marvelous high school theater productions.

Trustee Vestal would also like to investigate reinstating the joint School Board and City Council meetings. Ms. Vestal spent time on family outreach projects for the Delta Charter School. Board Member Vestal appreciates all the email received regarding Food Services.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett also appreciates all the correspondence regarding Food Services, and has met with Mr. Meza and Food Services Manager Smith to discuss the budget for this department. Ms. Dewey Thorsett attended the Budget Advisory Committee and the Facilities Task Force.

Board Member Strimling requested: a report regarding gang violence in the schools; a FAQ from Maintenance and Operations regarding the User Permit meeting that is upcoming in November; a plaque for Carl Pechman for his work on SCCS Solar Projects.

Student Representative Report

Student Morris reported that students and families were greatly supported by administrators and counselors following the death of Tyler Tenorio. Santa Cruz High School hosted a very successful Band Review, with the participation of more than 3,000 students. Friday, Santa Cruz High School will host Club Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Student Morris made a correction to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2009, and MSP (Collins/Dewey Thorsett) 4-0-2, the Board of Education approved the minutes as corrected. Mr. Collins and Ms. Strimling abstained from this vote. Student Morris voted yes.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Collins moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 65); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 66); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 67); Warrant Register; Unrestricted Budget vs. Actual Expenses for the period 7/1/09 through 9/30/09; Notice of Completion (Ex. 68); CSA’s – Professional Development (Ex. 69); Interim District Strategic Goals & Metrics; Williams Quarterly Reports (Ex. 70); Resolution #11-09-10 District Signature Authorization (Ex. 71); Commission for Prevention of Violence Against Women Proposal (Ex. 72); Budget Transfers. Ms. Vestal seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Morris – Yes

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

The Board of Education voted to expel Student 03-09-10, 04-09-10, 06-09-10, and 07-09-10 without dissent.

Direction was given to Superintendent Bloom regarding negotiations with the SCCCE and the GSCFT for 2010-11.

The Board voted 6-0 to approve Suzanne Orcutt as the new Education Technology Coordinator for SCCS.

The Board of Education voted 6-0 to approve the dismissal of an employee as recommended by District Administration.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

PUBLIC HEARING: Appointment of Personnel Commissioner

Open: Board President Wagman opened this Public Hearing at 7:23 p.m.

Superintendent Bloom reported that this public hearing is conducted to provide public input regarding the appointment of Brad Elliott by the Board of Education as the SCCS representative to the Personnel Commission.

Public Comments: SCCCE President Lowe and Vice President Chacanaca welcomed Mr. Elliott to the position.

Close: Board President Wagman closed this Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m.

Following the close of the Public Hearing MSP (Strimling/Collins) 6-0, the Board of Education appointed Brad Elliott as the SCCS representative to the Personnel Commission. Student Morris voted yes.

Old Business: Food Service Operational Changes

Mr. Meza and Food Services Director Smith reported to the Board of Education regarding this matter. The Board was presented with two scenarios in the Special Study Session held on October 21, 2009: a) stay with Revolution Foods and reduce staff by 45-50%; or b) phase out Revolution Foods and provide local, fresh, and healthy food prepared by the existing staff. Revolution Foods was brought in to serve as a bridge to serving healthier meals until the District hired an experienced chef, and could make the programmatic changes to offer equivalent meals. Absent any action, the Food Service fund is projected to have an operating deficit of -\$473,358, and end the year with a negative fund balance of -\$218,132 – despite a \$450,000 contribution from the General Fund and a beginning balance of \$255,226. Recommendations from Scenario C to make the transition to locally prepared fresh meals from scratch are projected to prevent further contributions to Food Services from the General Fund. Following questions and discussion among Trustees, District staff, Revolution Foods representatives, and members of the audience, Ms. Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the Food Services Operational Changes using Scenario C, and Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion. Board President Wagman made a friendly amendment to adopt the timeline, but switch the middle school roll out dates for the new menu items. This amendment was accepted by both the motion maker and the second. The Trustees approved the Food Service Operational Changes without dissent. Student Morris voted yes.

Recess: Board President Wagman called for a recess at 8:33 p.m.

Reconvene: Board President Wagman reconvened this meeting at 8:46 p.m. Student Morris did not return to the meeting after the recess.

Old Business: Relocation of Transportation Department

Mr. Meza reported the District has considered the following alternative locations for the relocation of the Transportation Department: *Harbor High* – a preliminary site plan is being developed by Bowman & Williams for the relocation of the Transportation Department to Harbor HS. The initial draft of this plan is expected to be completed in early November. The City of Santa Cruz has confirmed that no use permit is required for this site; *Mattison Lane* – this site would require site improvements valued at approximately \$207,000. An annual lease payment of \$37,600 would be budgeted from the General Fund. The District would have to commit to a long term lease to recover the cost of the site improvements, or pay a higher annual lease payment and make the owner responsible for the site improvements.

The District recommends the relocation of the Transportation Department to Harbor High School. MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the continuation of planning for the relocation of the Transportation Department to Harbor High School. (Ex. 73)

Staff Report: CBEDS Report

Mr. Meza reported that CBEDS this year was on October 7. This information collection date is used to report demographic information regarding students, faculty, and district employees on an annual basis. This data was provided to the Trustees for information purposes only, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

New Business: Participation in the Subsidized Employment Training Program

Ms. Krause reported that Shoreline Workforce Development Services, a division of Goodwill Industries, is partnering with Santa Cruz County Human Services Department to provide subsidized employment in Santa Cruz County funded through ARRA Emergency Contingency Funds. Eligible participants must meet the Federal 200% Federal Poverty Level test. Participants are offered short-term, temporary employment during this Recession. The proposal is to offer short-term employment to Learning Assistants who have been laid off by the district. Goodwill will strive to place up to 10 custodial assistants and 10 grounds assistants. Applicants will provide income information to Goodwill Industries, and Goodwill Industries will determine eligibility for the Federal Poverty Level. Any former Learning Assistants who are hired for these temporary positions would be eligible for extended 39 Month Rehire Rights. MSP (Maxwell/Strimling) 5-0-1, the Board of Education approved participation in the Subsidized Employment Training Program. Board Member Collins abstained from both the discussion and the vote on this item. (Ex. 74)

New Business: Assembly Bill 851: Impact on SCCS

Superintendent Bloom reported on a consortium formed some years ago that allows 7th and 8th graders residing in Soquel Union Elementary School District and the Live Oak School District to have dual citizenship in their elementary districts and SCCS. New legislation sunsets the consortium and adjusts the SUESD and LOSD revenue limits, leaving ambiguity about schools of residence for 7th and 8th graders in those districts who are also residents in SCCS. The net effect is that June 30, 2010 – there will be overlapping school district boundaries. The Board may wish to consider requesting legislation that clarifies districts of residence for these students in grades 7 & 8.

This item provided information only to the Trustees, and no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

Tentative Agreement between GSCFT/Adult Education and SCCS for 2008-09

Ms. Krause asked the Board of Education to approve the September 15, 2009 Tentative Agreement between the Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers, Santa Cruz Adult School, and Santa Cruz City Schools for 2008-09. The teacher ratified the agreement during the week of October 12, 2009. MSP (Maxwell/Collins) 6-0, the Board of

Education approved the Tentative Agreement between GSCFT/Adult School and SCCS for 2008-09. (Ex. 75)

Information

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is on November 18, 2009, 6:30 p.m., County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal, Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Meeting scheduled for December 9, 2009, 6:30 p.m., will be held at the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal, Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trustees, Board President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken S. Wagman, President
Board of Trustees

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools