

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

October 14, 2009

Convene Open Session

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

Absent: Don Maxwell

Student Representative Medeiros
Student Representative Morris

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

Ms. Strimling proposed Item 3.4, New Business: Interim District Strategic Goals & Metrics immediately follow Item 3.2, Staff Report: 2009 Summer School. This change was approved by the Board of Education.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Branciforte Middle School Assistant Principal Meeker introduced a group of students and parents who attended the October 3 Latino/Latina Role Model and Parenting Workshop Field Trip to San Jose and it was an inspiring event for all. The Board Members heard from a Harbor High School student who acknowledged the district meetings in September regarding access to A-G high school courses to prepare for university. All speakers from the group asked the Trustees to continue to support these worthwhile events. Santa Cruz Adult School teacher Pullman thanked the Trustees for the continued support for the important work done at this site. Upon completing classes, Adult School students become engaged in the local neighborhood and workforce and they are vital participants in our community. Representatives from Branciforte Middle School invited the Board Members and community members to the Tamalada on Friday, November 6, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. for a fun-filled event featuring dance, music, and food. Santa Cruz

Education Foundation Board President Suz Howells reported this is National School Lunch Week. The President's Proclamation resonates with our own Wellness Policy, and it is heartening to see this issue receive national attention. Santa Cruz City Schools contractor Revolution Foods hosted a food tasting event at Westlake Elementary School today, and more than one hundred parents attended the occasion. DeLaveaga Elementary School Principal Smith reported the school was closed today due to a power outage. The staff arrived early prepared to contact students and families, and after a great communication effort, only 2 of 618 students arrived for school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom thanked those who came to support field trips, workshops, and community and school fundraisers. The Superintendent acknowledged DeLaveaga Principal Smith and the school staff for the professional handling of the site closure today. SCCS will apply for a State Waiver for the educational minutes lost today at DeLaveaga. On October 15th, SCCS will participate in the Statewide Earthquake Drill. Superintendent Bloom encouraged everyone to have an emergency plan in place. After initial review of ARRA funds, SCCS reports that 11 employee positions were saved by the receipt of the stimulus funds. The Superintendent reported a fantastic event in Beach Flats hosted by Gault Elementary and Branciforte Middle School staffs. Superintendent Bloom had a very positive meeting today with members of the SC City Council, Police Chief Skerry, and Asst. Supt. Alvaro Meza regarding a School Resource Officer. There is lots of local support for this position, and for Officer Clark in particular. Mr. Bloom also met with local Sheriff's Office representatives, and it looks as though Soquel High School will also enjoy the services of a School Resource Officer for the remainder of the school year. The Superintendent spoke with former Superintendent Pagano today regarding mandated Board Policy revisions. SCCS is on target for the mid-January 2010 goal to complete mandatory revisions.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Wagman visited Ms. Spier's class at Branciforte Middle School where the students asked many intelligent questions about the positions of Board President and Community College Professor. Mr. Wagman attended the Santa Cruz High School Swimming Pool Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and a Santa Cruz High School PTA Meeting. President Wagman has received some parent correspondence regarding concerns about Food Services, and would like to add this item to the October 21st Study Session Agenda.

Board Members' Referrals and/or Reports

Board Member Collins thanked Soquel High School for the great presentation on the PSAT. Mr. Collins attended the "Stump" game between Santa Cruz and Soquel High Schools, and shared some of the history of this friendly rivalry. The Harbor High School Counseling Department hosted a College Preparatory Night, and excellent information for both parents and students was provided regarding post-secondary education programs and/or opportunities.

Board Member Vestal attended the Wellness Committee Meeting, and the initial meeting of the new Santa Cruz County School Boards Association. Trustee Vestal visited two Kindergarten and two Grade 1 classrooms, the Central Coast Early Education Symposium, and the new physical site for the Santa Cruz Adult School.

Board Member Dewey Thorsett attended the “Back to School” CSBA Webinar, and the Academic Excellence Task Force Meeting. Trustee Dewey Thorsett attended the first meeting of the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association (SCCSBA) and volunteered to continue the revision process for the Association bylaws. The Mission Hill Middle School Back-to-School Night was a wonderful event.

Board Member Hawthorne reported the Santa Cruz County School Boards Association now has representatives appointed by 8 of the 10 school districts in the county. The County Office of Education will be represented by Jack Dills. Pajaro Valley USD is the only county district that has not joined the Association. Trustee Hawthorne will pursue a CSBA training for the SCCSBA, and all represented districts will share the cost of this workshop. Ms. Hawthorne attended the SCHS Swimming Pool Ribbon Cutting and the Wellness Committee Meeting. Trustee Hawthorne is eager to hear the report on Food Services now included in the October 21st Study Session.

Board Member Strimling attended the meeting of the SCCSBA and feels this will be an excellent resource for information and collaboration in the county. Trustee Strimling would welcome a county-wide summit on education issues. Ms. Strimling attended the Academic Excellence Task Force meeting. Board Member Strimling asked the district administration to provide advance notification regarding the date and time on the Public Use Permit Hearing regarding finding a place for the SCCS buses. Ms. Strimling invited all community members to come and support SCHS at the Marching Band Review on Saturday October 17.

Student Representatives’ Reports

Student Medeiros has been busy working on early college applications. Student Medeiros will enjoy the new Santa Cruz High School swimming pool on Thursday October 15 during the Harbor/Santa Cruz Boys Water Polo match.

Student Morris reported it was clear that all parties were impressed and happy with the new SCSH Swimming Pool. Even though the project is complete, fundraising for the pool is still going strong. The Barrios Unidas program is not available this year due to budget cuts, but the counseling staff is still providing needed services to students and families. More than 225 people attended the Harbor High College Night, and the College Planning Night at Santa Cruz High School was also well attended

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP (Collins/Hawthorne) 6-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 23, 2009, including a correction to the Board Member Report by Trustee Collins. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

Following questions and discussion among Board Members, District Staff, and Members of the Audience, Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 56); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 57); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 58); Warrant Register; Change Orders (Ex. 59); CSA – Grant Writing Services (Ex. 60); CSA – Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) (Ex. 61); CSA’s – Professional Development (Ex. 62). Ms. Vestal seconded this motion. The motion was passed by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

Closed Session Action Report

Ms. Dewey Thorsett reported the following actions from the Closed Session Meeting:

1. The Board of Education voted 5-0 to expel Student #01-09-10.
2. The Board of Education voted 5-0 to expel Student #02-09-10
3. The Board of Education heard information on collective bargaining for the SCCCE for 2010-11 and gave direction to the Superintendent regarding this matter.
4. The Board of Education heard information on negotiations between SCCS and the GSCFT for 2010-11 and gave direction to the Superintendent regarding this matter.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Staff Report: Infinite Campus

Director of Information Technology Doucette reported to the Board of Education regarding this program. Her report included: Recap of Implementation; State of the System; Student Data Processing; Information System programs offered and usage summary; and available training opportunities for employees. As this item was included on the agenda for reporting purposes only, no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

Staff Report: Summer School 2009

Asst. Supt. Morgenstern reported that in the summer of 2009, Santa Cruz City Schools offered a summer school program to Elementary students on the Bay View and Gault Elementary campuses and to Secondary students on the Mission Hill Middle School campus. Ms. Morgenstern also reported that having two of our local administrators direct the programs this year encouraged SCCS teachers to apply for the summer positions – and a wonderful curriculum for students was produced in a fiscal climate that has forced

many districts to cut this program. Elementary Principal Robb and Secondary Principal Quandt reported on program offerings, budget, staff, attendance, schedule, program strengths, and recommendations for future consideration. As this item was included on the agenda for reporting purposes only, no action was taken by the Board of Education regarding this matter.

Recess: Board President Wagman called for a short recess at 8:21 p.m.

Reconvene: Board President Wagman reconvened this Regular Meeting at 8:32 p.m.

New Business: Interim District Strategic Goals & Metrics

Superintendent Bloom submitted these Interim Goals & Metrics for first reading with the intent to revisit and revise in Spring 2010 to inform practices for the 2010-11 school year. Development of these goals and metrics was grounded in a compilation of site-based goals in site plans and WASC plans, and reflect input from district and site leadership, and the Academic Excellence Task Force. Following discussion, MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 6-0, the Board of Education approved for first reading the Interim District Strategic Goals & Metrics. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

* **Note:** Ms. Strimling left this Regular Meeting at 9:10 p.m.

New Business: 2010-11 Development Budget Calendar and Formation of Budget Advisory Committee

Asst. Supt. Meza asked the Trustees to approve the 2010-11 Budget Development Calendar and formation of a Budget Advisory Committee. The Budget Development Calendar establishes a timeline for the development, review and acceptance of the 2010-11 budget. The process begins early so that timely decisions can be made to adjust existing programs and to evaluate new expenditure proposals for possible inclusion in the adopted budget. The Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) will be a standing committee with representatives from stakeholders in the district. It is advisory in nature. Its purpose is to review the District budget, share information with constituent groups, and generate recommendations for the Superintendent's consideration in the Budget development process. Members of the community are encouraged to participate in the committee, and those interested in serving on this standing committee should contact the Superintendent's office. Meetings will be held in Room 312 at the District Office, from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. for the next seven months. Following questions and discussion among Board Members, Staff Members, and Members of the Audience, Ms. Hawthorne moved approval and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0 by the Trustees. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

New Business: Branciforte Middle School Environmental Impact Report

Superintendent Bloom and Mr. Meza recommended approval of the contract with Stephen Graves & Associates for Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study for the Branciforte Middle School Turf Replacement Project. To comply with CEQA, an agency must first prepare an initial study, assessing whether implementation of a project may result in significant environmental impact. If so, the agency must prepare an environmental impact report. If no EIR is necessary, the agency must prepare a Negative

Declaration. If the project would have significant environmental impact, but the impact may be mitigated to a level of less than significant, then the agency must prepare a Mitigated Negative Declaration. This project in the amount of \$3,800 would be funded by Bonds. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Branciforte Middle School Environmental Impact Report. (Ex. 63)

New Business: Contract w/SSA Architects for the SCHS Old Pool Demolition

Mr. Meza recommended approval of the contract with SSA Architects for the demolition of the old pool at Santa Cruz High School. The fees for this service will be paid with Bonds. MSP (Hawthorne/Collins) 5-0, the Board of Education approved the Contract with SSA Architects for the Santa Cruz High School old pool demolition. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 64)

Information

The Board Study Session scheduled for October 21, 2009, 6:30 p.m., District Office, Room 312, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA will include two topics for discussion: Special Education and Food Services. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled on October 28, 2009, 6:30 p.m., Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Board of Education Meeting scheduled for November 18, 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 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken S. Wagman, President
Board of Education