

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY DISTRICTS
September 23, 2009**

Convene Open Session

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut St., Santa Cruz, CA.

Attendance at Meeting

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

Student Representative Medeiros
Student Representative Morris

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Tanya Krause, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Diane Morgenstern, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Dick Moss, 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

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Santa Cruz High School Principal Edmonds welcomed the Trustees to the school. Principal Edmonds reported fundraising of more than \$27,000 during the last few months, and acknowledged the generosity of parents and other community members towards school programs and student opportunities. Santa Cruz Adult School teachers Sander and Burke delivered student statements regarding adult school classes to the Board Members, and also thanked the district for the help received from the Maintenance and Operations Department during the move to the campus on La Fonda. Retired teacher Marilyn Garrett asked the Board of Education to include time on an upcoming agenda for discussion of the health and safety concerns regarding students who are exposed to wireless technology.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom acknowledged the positive story about a Santa Cruz High School Yoga class in the Santa Cruz Sentinel on September 22nd. Santa Cruz City Schools will submit a Media Plan later this year to the Board of Education. Santa Cruz City Schools will participate in earthquake preparedness through the Great California Shakeout

program. Tonight is the last Board Meeting for retiring Senior Assistant Superintendent Moss, and the Business Office is working through the transition of new staff member Alvaro Meza. The Food Services Department has transitioned from Revolution Foods for breakfast items to fresh prepared hot and cold breakfast foods made in our high school kitchens. The reports are very positive for both the district-prepared morning items and the Revolution Food lunch offerings. A fiscal report, including ending balance and additional department recommendations, is expected from Food Services at a later date.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS AND REFERRALS

Board President's Report

Board President Wagman requested an update on the Parent Portal access in the new district student information system Infinite Campus.

Board Members' Reports or Comments

Board Member Dewey Thorsett thanked Principal Edmonds for hosting this meeting. Ms. Dewey Thorsett attended the Westlake Elementary School back-to-school event and the Business Services Barbeque, and both events were enjoyable. Trustee Dewey Thorsett has attended a training session and signed up for her parent password for the Infinite Campus student information system. Ms. Dewey Thorsett would appreciate an update on parent access to attendance records.

Board Member Maxwell attended back-to-school events at both Harbor and Soquel high schools. Mr. Maxwell expressed concern that parents who do not have computer access must also have access to student assignments, attendance, and school wide messages. Trustee Maxwell has heard from teachers that data input for the new student information system takes a significant amount of time each week. Mr. Maxwell noticed that travel between buildings at Harbor High School must be done without protection from the weather. Board Member Maxwell proposed a monthly meeting for discussion of the education-related articles regularly forwarded by Superintendent Bloom.

Board Member Vestal would attend a monthly discussion meeting on the articles supplied by the Superintendent. Ms. Vestal attended back-to-school events at Branciforte Middle School and Soquel High School. The welcome remarks from Branciforte Principal Munro in both English and Spanish were appreciated, as was the food presented by the Food Services Department. Ms. Vestal attended the Delta Charter School back-to-school event. Trustee Vestal thanked Mr. Moss for his assistance with questions.

Board Member Collins attended the Harbor High School back-to-school event, and was impressed with both Principal Davis' presentation and the presentations and performances by staff and students. At a conference for work force preparation he attended, Mr. Collins learned that the rate of post secondary education is declining in the age group 18-34 compared to older age groups. The United States is the only developed nation where this is happening. Mr. Collins is pleased to see fresh food items on campus, and would gladly pay for the privilege of sampling some of the new breakfast and lunch menu items.

Board Member Strimling attended the Santa Cruz High School back-to-school event, and offered compliments on a well-organized, well-attended event with enthusiastic teachers displaying positive energy and excitement. Ms. Strimling reported a sense of positive growth for Santa Cruz City Schools in the community – people are pleased with the new construction projects, solar power systems at the sites, and the new direction of the food services. Trustee Strimling has also heard that parents are struggling with the new student information system. Ms. Strimling thanked Mr. Moss for his professionalism and competence during his ten years at Santa Cruz City Schools.

Board Member Hawthorne attended the Life Lab Anniversary celebration. SCCS was well-represented, as well as our community partners in the Life Lab program. Ms. Hawthorne is looking forward to the start of the County School Boards Association meetings. Trustee Hawthorne attended the Santa Cruz High School back-to-school event. We should be proud and celebrate our schools and our increased enrollment this year. Ms. Hawthorne would be interested in an update on the Infinite Campus program and parent accessibility to student information. Board Member Hawthorne reported that the COE Board Meetings are the first and third Thursdays of each month at 2:00 p.m.

Student Representatives' Reports

Student Medeiros reported that the Early College Applications process is in full swing at this time, and he is a busy participant.

Student Morris has found generous fundraising and support from administration, parents, students and coaches who are working hard together to ensure that the student sports programs will continue this year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP (Hawthorne/Dewey Thorsett) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2009. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

The Trustees asked to have item 1.14, Consultant Services Agreement, pulled from the Consent Agenda for a separate discussion and vote. Mr. Collins moved approval of Consent Agenda Items 1.1 through 1.13, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 38); Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 39); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 40); Warrant Register; Budget Transfers; Change Orders (Ex. 41); Gifts; CSA – Special Education (Ex. 42); Resolution #04-09-10 District Authorized Signatures (Ex. 43); Out-of-State Field Trip for Soquel High School; Resolution #05-09-10 Designating SCCS Representative to the Office of Public School Construction 45 (Ex. 44); Resolution #06-09-10 Approval of 50 Gann Limit Calculations for 2008-09 and 2009-10 (Ex. 45); Resolution #07-09-10 Approving District Representatives to JPA's (Ex. 46). The Board acknowledged, with gratitude, the following gift donated to the Santa Cruz City Schools District: *Adult School* – Seth Burton has donated \$450 to the Adult School. Mr. Maxwell seconded this motion.

The motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

Item 1.14 – Consultant Services Agreement – Alfredo Castaneda

The services provided by this CSA have already begun – one meeting took place on September 13, one meeting is taking place this evening, and two additional meetings are set for September 29 and 30. The Special Projects Department was not able to bring the item to the Board of Education for approval prior to the start of services. The funds were realized in early September through Title III, and the district was required to spend the funds prior to September 30, 2009. Mr. Castaneda, the founder and director of the Early College Outreach Parent Program, was able to begin the meetings almost immediately to meet the timeline for expenditure of funds. Special Projects Director Villalobos-Osey does not anticipate any future submissions of CSA's after the start date for services rendered. GSCFT President Kirschen expressed disappointment that district personnel were not utilized for these services, and also that the agreement came to the Trustees for approval after services were provided. MSP (Hawthorne/Vestal) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Consultant Services Agreement for Alfredo Castaneda. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 47)

Closed Session Action Report

1. The Board of Education intends to appoint Brad Elliott to the Personnel Commission, and this item will come back for Open Session on October 28, 2009.
2. The Board Members received an update on negotiations with the GSCFT Adult Education for 2008-09
3. The Board Members received an update on the negotiations with GSCFT for 2010-11, and gave direction to the Superintendent.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

PUBLIC HEARING: Accountability Yearly Report (AYP) & Academic Performance Index (API)

Open: Board President Wagman opened this Public Hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Curriculum and Assessment Director James reported the California Department of Education has released the 2009 Academic Performance Index (API) and the growth targets for all California public schools. The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 mandates an Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) report for all public schools and districts. After reviewing both API and AYP for both SCCS districts, Ms. James outlined the next steps to raising student achievement. These next steps include the development of District Goals and Metrics; alignment of site goals to district goals; site based professional development targeting student achievement; focus on common formative assessments; professional learning teams focused on student goals; site-specific intervention services.

Public Comments: None

Close: Board President Wagman closed this Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: Sufficiency of Instructional Materials

Open: Board President Wagman opened this Public Hearing at 8:05 p.m.

In order to be eligible to receive instructional materials funds, the Governing Board of each Local Educational Agency must hold an annual Public Hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to make a determination, through a resolution, as to whether each pupil in the district has or will have sufficient textbooks or instructional materials in content areas consistent with the cycles of adoption adopted by the CDE. 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: SCCCE Vice President Chacanaca spoke to ensure that the Trustees were aware that the high schools do not currently have any textbook clerks, so there is no one to ensure that proper books have been (a) checked out to students; or (b) will be checked in at the end of the course/school year.

Close: Board President Wagman closed this Public Hearing at 8:10 p.m.

New Business: Resolution #08-09-10 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials in the Elementary District and Resolution #09-09-10 Sufficiency of Instructional Materials in the High Schools District

Mr. Collins moved approval of Resolution #08-09-10 and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded the motion. The motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 48)

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

Mr. Collins moved approval of Resolution #09-09-10 and Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded the motion. The motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 49)

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

New Business: Revised Facility Use Fee Schedule

Mr. Moss reported the Facility Use Fee Schedule is part of AR 1330 Use of School Facilities. The fee schedule was last updated in 2003. The new use fees include both Fair Market rates for private parties and Direct Cost rates for non-profit and public entities. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the fees effective for new rentals after January 1, 2010. Ms. Dewey Thorsett seconded this motion. Following discussion, a friendly amendment by Mr. Collins to have the motion include the opportunity for SCCS Administration to amend use fees to include custodial fees as needed was approved by

the motion maker and the second. The motion was approved without dissent. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 50)

New Business: Certify 2008-09 Year-End Financial Report; Approve 2009-10 Revised Budget and \$3.4 Million Budget Reductions Target for 2010-11

Mr. Moss reported to the Board of Education. After reporting on the 2008-09 Year-End Financial Report, and the 2009-10 Revised Budget – Mr. Moss offered three options for future reductions, including the recommended option of making the reductions required to meet a 3% reserve in both 2010-11 and 2011-12. The reductions will total approximately \$3,400,000 in 2010-11, and \$3,250,000 in 2011-12. MSP (Maxwell/Hawthorne) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Certification of the 2008-09 Year-End Financial Report, approved the 2009-10 Revised Budget, and adopted the expenditure reductions figures intended to meet a 3% reserve in both 2010-11 and 2011-12. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 51)

New Business: Approval of Variable Term Waiver Request

Ms. Krause reported to the Board Members seeking authorization to employ a Bilingual Speech Pathologist under a Variable Term Waiver request for the 2009-10 school year. MSP (Maxwell/Hawthorne) 6-0, the Board approved the Variable Term Waiver Request. *Note – Ms. Dewey Thorsett was not in the room at the time of this vote. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 52)

PUBLIC HEARING: Tentative Agreement between SCCS and the GSCFT K-12 for 2009-10 – Disclosure of Costs Agreement

Open: Board President Wagman opened this Public Hearing at 9:18 p.m.

Mr. Moss reported the salary formula in the GSCFT contract has generated a 0% increase to Certificated salary schedules for 2009-10. This agreement provides compensation for excess students at a per diem, per student rate at the secondary schools. (Ex. 53)

Public Comments: None

Close: Board President Wagman closed this Public Hearing at 9:22 p.m.

New Business: Tentative Contract Agreement between SCCS and the GSCFT, K-12 for 2009-10

Ms. Krause reported the Tentative Agreement includes the following articles:

- Article VI – Grievance
- Article XIII – Class Sized
- Article XVII – Salary and Fringe Benefits
- GSCFT Side Letter: Certificated Extra Duty Stipends

MSP (Collins/Maxwell) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the tentative contract agreement between SCCS and the GSCFT K-12 for 2009-10. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes. (Ex. 54)

New Business: Resolution #10-09-10 Honoring Richard Moss, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Board President Wagman read aloud the Resolution honoring Mr. Richard Moss, and also presented Mr. Moss with a plaque to commemorate his years of service in the Santa Cruz City Schools. Mr. Collins moved approval of the resolution, and Ms. Strimling seconded this motion. The motion was carried by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 55)

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

Information

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for October 14, 2009, 6:30 p.m., County Office of Education, 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA. There is a Study Session on October 21, 2009, 6:30 p.m., Room 312, District Office, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education scheduled for October 28, 2009, 6:30 p.m., will be held at Santa Cruz High School, 415 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trustees, Board President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken S. Wagman, President
Board of Education