

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY
SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY DISTRICTS
September 9, 2009**

Convene Open Session

Board President Wagman called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the 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

Student Representative Medeiros
Student Representative Morris

Absent: Don Maxwell

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

DeLaveaga Teacher, SCCS Parent, and Familia Center Board Member Elizabeth Lindsley invited the Board and Community Members to the Silver Anniversary Movie Night for the Familia Center. The award-winning feature film “Under the Same Moon” will be screened to celebrate 25 years of service to working families of Santa Cruz on Thursday, September 24, 7:00 p.m., at the Del Mar Theater. SCEF Board Member Suz Howells promoted the Star Works Employment Resources for parents and students available on the SCCS District website. The program includes money management, resume tools, training resources, preparing for college, and preparing for employment. There is also information available regarding resource agencies, career exploration, transportation tips, and job links. Westlake parents Lisa Frazer and Jennifer Thiede expressed their thanks for all the services provided for children by Santa Cruz City Schools Board Members and Staff Members.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Bloom attended Back-to-School Night for Kindergarten parents at Gault School on September 8. SCCS schools that are offering breakfast and lunch services through Revolution Foods will provide food tasting opportunities at Back-to-School festivities. The Superintendent experienced a delightful day while substituting for the Principal at Mission Hill Middle School.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS OR REFERRALS

Board President's Report

On the holiday weekend, Board President Wagman attended the NAACP and Labor Picnics, and also joined over 100 people who turned out at San Lorenzo Park to support healthy school food offerings for students at the "Brown Bag Lunch" event.

Board Members' Reports or Comments

Board Member Vestal attended the Personnel Commission Meeting and the Monday holiday "Brown Bag Lunch" event. Trustee Vestal is thankful for the Santa Cruz Education Foundation, and grateful to Trustee Hawthorne for her leadership advocating for children.

Board Member Hawthorne attended the "Brown Bag Lunch" event, which was a wonderful collaboration of community partners. Representative Sam Farr acknowledged the City of Santa Cruz for leading the charge for fresh and nutritious food choices for students.

Board Member Strimling thanked the Santa Cruz Education Foundation for sponsoring the "Brown Bag Lunch" event last Monday. Trustee Strimling noted the effort that went into organizing the letter-writing tables, the great media coverage of the event, and the enthusiastic participants. Ms. Strimling offered appreciation to the SCCS staff for providing achievement data, graduation rates, and information regarding SCCS students who are college-bound. The Academic Excellence Task Force will use this data to address academic issues in the coming months.

Student Representatives Reports

Student Morris was able to try one of the lunches provided at some SCCS school sites by Revolution Foods, and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Student Medeiros is especially enjoying his AP Spanish class this year, and the multi-cultural awareness and appreciation he is experiencing as one of the native English speakers in this honors class.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSP (Hawthorne/Vestal) 5-0, the Board Members approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2009. The Student Representatives voted yes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Hawthorne moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of: Personnel Actions – Classified (Ex. 27); Personnel Actions – Certificated (Ex. 28); Purchase Orders, Quotes & Bids (Ex. 29); Warrant Register; CSA – Hearing Services (Ex. 30); CSA – Branciforte Middle School Professional Development (2) (Ex. 31); Student Teacher Agreement with San Jose State University (Ex. 32); Disposition of Surplus Item (Ex. 33); Change Order (Ex. 34). Ms. Strimling seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows:

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

Student Medeiros – Yes

Student Morris – Yes

ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED and/or DISCUSSED

Staff Report: School Enrollment Report

Mr. Moss reported to the Board Members regarding the 2009-10 Opening School Enrollment figures. SCCS has an additional 37 elementary students from the 2008-09 enrollment; 4 additional middle school students; and ninety-five additional students at the comprehensive high schools. The Small Schools Campus currently has 2 fewer students than last year; however, these sites traditionally experience growth later in the school year, so the current enrollment figures are very positive at this early date.

Staff Report: Summary of Student Achievement Trends

Director of Curriculum and Assessment James reported on trends in student achievement in Mathematics using data from the California Standards Test (CST), the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE). This year the Santa Cruz City Schools will provide site-based Professional Development for staff members, and will incorporate local assessments into our student achievement results. The K-12 Math Network provides successful instructional strategies, and the Data Wise Program provides immediate feedback for students and teachers.

New Business: Adopt Bylaws of the SC County School Boards Association, Approve Membership, and Select a Representative for SCCS

Superintendent Bloom reported the SCCSBA is being formed in order to increase collaboration and communication between Santa Cruz County School Boards and their districts. The Superintendent recommended approval of these actions. The Board Members discussed options, and elected to discuss the proposed recommendations with three separate motions and votes. MSP (Strimling/Hawthorne) 5-0, the Board approved membership in the SCCSBA. MSP (Strimling/Dewey Thorsett) 5-0, the Board approved Ms. Hawthorne as the Santa Cruz City Schools Representative to the SCCSBA. (Ex., 35)

- Note: At this time, 7:36 p.m., Board Member Collins arrived at the meeting.

Ms. Dewey Thorsett expressed concerns regarding the language of the By-Laws of this organization. Other school boards have approved the by-laws, contingent upon a committee formed within the SCCSBA to review and make changes to the by-laws. Ms.

Dewey Thorsett moved approval of the by-laws contingent upon having the revised by-laws brought back to involved school boards for approval by January 2010. Ms. Hawthorne seconded this motion. Following discussion of the by-laws among the Board Members, Staff Members, and Members of the Audience, the motion was passed by the Trustees without dissent. Students Medeiros and Morris voted yes.

Resolution #2-09-10: Certificated Personnel Action – Authorizing Valid Assignment in Compliance with CCTC Guidelines

Ms. Krause reported that although this employee does not meet CA Credential requirements due to recent changes in Williams' Compliance, an assignment by Board Resolution is considered a valid assignment by the CCTC. Mr. Newell has taught psychology since 1974, and sociology since 1980 at Santa Cruz High School. Mr. Newell is NCLB compliant in each of these subject areas. Ms. Hawthorne moved approval, and Mr. Collins seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 36)

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

Student Medeiros – Yes Student Morris – Yes

Resolution #3-09-10: Certificated Personnel Action – Authorizing Valid Assignment in Compliance with CCTC Guidelines

Ms. Krause reported that although this retired employee does not meet the updated CA Credential requirements, an assignment by Board Resolution is considered a valid assignment by the CCTC. Mr. Mitchell taught industrial arts at Mission Hill Middle School for more than thirty years, retiring in 2002. In order for the students at Mission Hill to be able to be offered an industrial arts elective, the District would like to rehire Mr. Mitchell to teach a woodshop class for 2009-10. Mr. Collins moved approval, and Ms. Hawthorne seconded this motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, as follows: (Ex. 37)

Roll Call Vote: Collins – Yes Dewey Thorsett – Yes Hawthorne – 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 September 23, 2009, 6:30 p.m., Santa Cruz High School Theater, 415 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz, CA. The Regular Meeting of October 14, 2009, will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the County Office of Education Board Room, 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA. A Special Education Study Session is proposed for October 21, 2009 in Room 312 of the District Office, 405 Old San Jose Road, Soquel, CA.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trustees, Board President Wagman adjourned this Regular Meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bloom, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Ken S. Wagman, President
Board of Education