

**SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

February 3, 2009  
**MINUTES**

Douglas E. Giles  
Educational Resource Center  
9619 Cuyamaca Street  
Santee, California

The Board met with the principals prior to the regular meeting.

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome  
President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and read the District Mission Statement.  
Members present:  
Dianne ElHajj, President  
Dustin Burns, Vice President  
Barbara Ryan, Clerk  
Allen Carlisle, Member  
Dan Bartholomew, Member  
Administration present:  
Dr. Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board  
Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Emily Andrade, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Minnie Malin, Director, Human Resources  
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary
2. President El-Hajj invited Rio Seco students Emily Keniston and Isabella Lenhoff to lead the members, staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
President El-Hajj reported that the Board had a great meeting with the Principals prior to the regular meeting.
3. Approval of Agenda  
It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.  
**Motion: Burns Second: Ryan Vote: 5-0**

**B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Superintendent's Report**

- 1.1. Developer Fees Collection Report
- 1.2. Use of Facilities Report
- 1.3. Enrollment Report
- 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

Dr. Johnson said she was happy to announce the District received notification of the award of a \$7.5 M QZAB loan. She also reported on Thursday the Classroom of the Future Foundation Board will be meeting in Santee and will be touring Prospect Avenue School prior to their meeting. Dr. Johnson will be sharing the District's work in Project Based Learning and seeking a partnership with the Foundation to expand the program.

**2. Spotlight: Improvements to Attendance Reporting**

Bill Clark reported that because of the diligence of Faith Mitchell, Robyn Wright, and Rebekah Robles, and under the leadership of Bernard Yeo, it was discovered that certain specific flags had to be set to improve the capture and reporting of attendance information required by the State. Through their evaluation and correction of the attendance reporting the District will earn an additional estimated \$345,000 in attendance revenue. President El-Hajj presented each of these employees with a certificate of appreciation and Board members thanked them for their efforts to increase District revenue.

**3. Spotlight on Education: Principal Presentation from Rio Seco School**

Rio Seco Principal Lisa McColl and Vice Principal Dan Prouty shared how Rio Seco School is building for the future. The foundation for success at Rio Seco is Community Service and Character Education. Students Emily Keniston and Isabella Lenhoff shared some of the community service projects students are involved in this year. Mrs. McColl shared the strong instructional practices and systematic interventions in place at Rio Seco. They have seen some fantastic growth from students participating in the Literacy Center. Mr. Prouty, Vice Principal, shared how the staff strives to provide connectedness for

students at school. Member Ryan said she loves their stretch goals and Member Bartholomew said he likes the foundation premise. Board members commended administration for their good work. President El-Hajj said the Board is proud of the school and the students.

### **C. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Presentation of the Board's Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 557
2. Presentation of California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 557 Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and CSEA

President El-Hajj opened the public hearings for the initial proposals to modify the current collective bargaining agreement between the District and the California School Employees Association. There were no comments from the public. The public hearings were closed.

### **D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

President El-Hajj invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda.

Mr. John Tofflemire, former Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, thanked the Board, Executive Council, and the entire staff for all of their support during the recent events in his family.

### **E. CONSENT ITEMS**

Items listed under Consent are considered to be routine and are all acted on by the Board with one single motion. President El-Hajj invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent. There were no comments from the public.

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 1.2. **Districtwide Recycling**
- 2.1. **Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests**
- 2.2. **Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report**
- 2.3. **Acceptance of Donations**
- 2.4. **Removal of Underground Storage Tanks**
- 3.1. **Authorization to Sell Surplus Portable Buildings**
- 3.2. **New Services Upgrade - SDG&E Fees for Hill Creek, Prospect Avenue and Chet F. Harritt,**
- 4.1. **Approval of Request for Extended Field Trip for Sycamore Canyon School to San Juan Capistrano Mission**
- 4.2. **Approval of 2008-09 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cajon Valley Union School District for Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Program (BTSA) Consortium**
- 5.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 5.2. **Approval of 2009-2010 District School Calendar**

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items.

*Motion:*            **Bartholomew**            *Second:*    **Carlisle**                            *Vote:*        **5-0**

### **F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

President El-Hajj invited comments from the public on any item listed under Discussion and/or Action. There were no public comments.

#### **1.1. Business Breakfast**

Member Burns suggested that administration look into hosting this year's breakfast at a school site. Member Ryan liked the idea. They suggested checking Rio Seco and tours of the school could be provided following the breakfast.

Member Bartholomew asked if businesses that have made donations to the District will be included on the guest list and receive recognition at the Breakfast. Linda reviewed the donations for the past 15 months and included those supporting businesses on the proposed guest list. Barbara suggested inviting the Chamber Board and possibly inviting all of the chamber businesses. She recommended talking to Chamber President Rob Mc Nelis about the Chamber businesses.

Member Ryan shared that at a recent Children's Hospital annual awards banquet, some of the young patients were invited to present awards and thank the donors. It was very impressive. Member Bartholomew said some of the contacts may need to be updated. Sony and Go Get Yogurt have new contacts. Linda will update the contact list and Administration will look into having the breakfast at a school site.

## **1.2. Building Dedication Plaques**

Dr. Johnson presented sample sizes and text layouts for bronze plaques for the new buildings. Board members preferred the 14" x 18" size plaque. The Board names should be listed alphabetically in three rows. The Superintendent's name should also be included. There was discussion about principal names being included on the plaques but concern was expressed that principals may change at schools during the construction process. The Board deferred this recommendation to Dr. Johnson. A temporary plaque should be made for the dedication.

Member Ryan moved to purchase a 14" x 18" bronze plaque for Cajon Park. Decisions about additional plaques will be deferred until it is time to order them. Board members requested a template, with a design layout of the Board signatures in three rows and the Superintendent beneath, be brought to a future meeting for a final decision for the permanent plaque at Cajon Park School. The recommendation of the Superintendent about additional names to be considered on the plaque will be reviewed by the Board.

**Motion:** Ryan                      **Second:** Burns                      **Vote:** 5-0

### **2.1. Farmers' Market**

Bill Clark reported on continued community interest in providing a Farmers' Market in Santee and requested approval for a use permit for a Farmers' Market to begin at the Santee School Site in April. Administrators met with other stakeholders to discuss the original request to use Rio Seco School and came up with the recommendation to use the Santee School site parking lot. This would resolve the interference with the school and be a more visible and accessible location for the vendors. The City agrees that it is a suitable temporary location. Member Carlisle asked what days and hours the market would be in operation. Mr. Clark said the market would operate on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to dusk. Member Ryan asked if they will have their own insurance. Mr. Clark said insurance is a requirement. Member Ryan would like to assure that if the market is allowed to use the Santee School site and that site becomes unavailable, there is no obligation by the District to provide or locate another site for the market. She will support the market being at the Santee School site but would not support it at another school site.

Member Ryan moved to approve to enter into an agreement for a temporary Use of Facilities permit for a Farmers' Market on the Santee School site. The agreement must include that the Santee School District would not be responsible to find or provide another location for the market if the Santee School site becomes unavailable.

**Motion:** Ryan                      **Second:** Bartholomew                      **Vote:** 5-0

### **2.2. Solar Project Update and Capital Project Financing**

Art Castaneras, from Manzana Energy, provided a presentation for a prospective solar project. His resume' includes having worked with the California State legislature for 13 years. His goal was to create a financial solution for school districts and solar became a vehicle for that. He shared the District could have fixed energy cost savings with no capital investment. The solar structures are DSA pre-approved and are completely open and provide lighting underneath. Manzana Energy is hesitant to place solar panels on building roofs because of the roof maintenance needs that can disrupt the solar panels.

Member Carlisle asked how Manzana Energy profits from the project. Mr. Castaneras said Marzana guarantees fixed costs to the District and would receive the tax credits and renewable energy credits. Member Carlisle would like to see their contract. Mr. Castaneras said Marzana staff would be glad to meet with the Board to answer their questions about the details of the program. Member Carlisle asked if it is possible for SDG&E to change their rules midstream rendering their financial model inaccurate. Mr. Castaneras said Legislation is moving toward solar energy and it would not be a logical decision for SDG&E to change their fee structure because it would ultimately be a financial loss for them.

Member Carlisle said he was concerned about a new solar vendor coming in after Borrego Solar has provided the District with energy surveys, designs, and other services. He believes we need to do right by them for the services they have provided.

Mr. Clark said the District could provide compensation if they used some of their designs but it would be difficult to bring them in to partner with another vendor.

President El-Hajj asked what the Facilities Committee recommended. Mr. Clark said this presentation was made to the Facilities Committee and they were supportive to continue to investigate the program. Member Carlisle said he would like more information and he likes that there is no capital outlay. Member Burns said because there is no capital investment, it has gotten his attention but is concerned because it sounds "too good to be true". He requested Member Carlisle to continue to gather more information and share his finding with the Board

Board members requested Administration to work out details for the Board to get more information because there is an interest. Member Ryan said the design would also need to be discussed further.

### **3.1. Approval of Chet F. Harritt Revised Site Plan Classroom Addition Location**

Bill Clark shared there are dynamics that require moving the placement for the new building at Chet F. Harritt. Member Burns asked if the building could fit on the southwest corner of the District's property. Mr. Clark said no because of the existing creek bed. Member Bartholomew said in the beginning there were some concerned community members about the location of the new building and asked if the community has been informed about this move. Dr. Johnson said Chet Harritt Principal, Andy Johnston, has met with the staff and they wanted to make certain they have all the playground equipment they need and there is a plan for that with this new placement. Mr. Clark is working with the City for PE classes to take place in the park during construction. Board members were concerned about safety measures in the park and the presence of the public using the park during the day. Bill Clark said the park would be used only temporarily during the construction and once construction is completed there will be additional playground for PE classes. President El-Hajj asked to have the use of Big Rock Park added to the City/Board Joint Committee meeting scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Member Ryan moved to approve the revised 10-classroom addition site plan for Chet F. Harritt.

**Motion:** Ryan                      **Second:** Bartholomew                      **Vote:** 5-0

### **4.1. Trimester I and Physical Education Student Results**

Kristin Baranski, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, presented a report on Trimester 1 student achievement data in English Language Arts, math, and physical education. Trimester 1 data is not a predictor of CST scores but helps show what students need to learn. Mrs. Baranski said at the last presentation the Board requested Administration to bring disaggregated data on special education students. RSP students equate to 50% of the special education population and take the District benchmark assessments. Data shows a pattern of inconsistency demonstrating the need to do a better job to connect what is being delivered in the regular classroom and the RSP classroom.

School sites are reviewing data in grades 2-3 to ensure understanding of the vocabulary questions and reviewing CST blueprints. Curriculum support staff is meeting with Principals to determine additional site needs, monitor special education data, and provide the staff development necessary for special education teachers on how to use assessment data for instruction.

Member Burns asked if a staff development plan has been developed and when it will begin. Stephanie Pierce said the staff development plan is multi-year but is in place now and staff is working with Principals. Staff development is also being built into job-alike meetings.

Member Bartholomew asked if only 3 years of data was presented because we have only had the assessment software for 3 years. Mrs. Baranski said older data is available but was not presented in the data shown. Member Bartholomew said a breakdown of students by proficiency levels would help us know if we are moving kids forward. Mrs. Baranski said that data is available and reviewed at the site level to determine student learning needs. She said schools are now preparing for Trimester 2 assessments.

Mrs. Baranski shared Physical Education testing data showed some improvements from 2007.

## **BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS**

### **1.1. First Reading: Revised Board Policies**

- BP 0000- 1700 (Concepts and Roles)
- BP 1000-1700 (Community Relations)
- BP 2000-2230 (Administration)
- BB 9000-9400 (Bylaws of the Board)

The revised Board Policies and Bylaws listed were revised collaboratively with CSBA to bring the Board Policies and Bylaws up to current standards and to include current legal requirements. All Board members had the opportunity to review the revised and new policies and bylaws. The listed Board Policies and Bylaws were presented for a first reading. There were no comments from the Board and no action taken.

## **H. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

Member Ryan reported Assembly Member Anderson will not be carrying a bill for Santee School District. He said his caucus would not support the changes in the allocation from the ballot proposition because it would provide for Los Angeles to receive all of the money. A meeting with Senator Hollingsworth is being scheduled.

Member Bartholomew said interviews for the Superintendent candidates will be held on February 28th. He reported on meeting with the Classroom of the Future Foundation and they would be a good source of support if we can establish a partnership. Member Burns said they wanted to make certain that with Dr. Johnson leaving, the Board would remain committed to the vision.

Member Burns suggested a booth be available at building dedications to provide information and take orders for engraved legacy pavers. Community members, businesses, and retirees that attend may be interested in purchasing pavers.

Board members reviewed and approved the proposed agenda for the Cajon Park dedication.

Board members said Principals believe that staff meetings regarding the budget issues were not necessary but there is a need to provide some consistent communication. Principals also suggested a letter go home to parents. Dr. Johnson has prepared a communiqué with questions and answers based on the fears and concerns Administration has heard and said she could meet with principals and share the information and ask them to bring the message back to their schools. Member Burns believes the information should be emailed to each employee. The Board asked Dr. Johnson to move forward to meet with principals about providing the information to their staffs and provide the information in electronic or hard copy. Dr. Johnson will work with Principals about providing talking points for their parent or PTA newsletters.

Member Carlisle said Padre Dam will be inviting the Board to the Padre Dam "Flip the Switch" celebration of their newly completed solar project.

## **I. CLOSED SESSION**

President El-Hajj announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

1. **Conference with Legal Counsel (Govt. Code § 54956.9 subdivision b):** *Pending Litigation (One case.)*  
*Legal Representation: Nowell A. Lantz, Attorney at Law*
2. **Liability Claim**  
*Clamant: Sprotte + Watson Architect Planning*  
*Agency claims against: Santee School District*
3. **Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54956.8)**  
*Agency Negotiator: Minnie Malin, Director, Human Resources*  
*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association*  
*California School Employees Association*  
*Purpose: Negotiations*
4. **Public Employment Matters (Govt. Code § 54957)**  
*Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release*  
*Superintendent*

The Board entered closed session at 9:55 p.m.

**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:15 p.m. No action was reported.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

The February 3, 2009 regular meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

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Barbara Ryan, Clerk

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Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary