

Member Ryan attended the Delegate Assembly and shared information about the State budget. She shared a Power Point with the Board and will provide copies to the Board. She said the State budget is not as bad for schools as it could have been. She participated in a conference call with the Governor's staff and the information was consistent with what Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent shared. CSBA and the Education Coalition have taken the position that there needs to be a dual approach, revenue enhancements and cost efficiencies. They looked at what types of revenue enhancements CSBA would support. Although the Governor spared education, the budget desiccated health and human services. The Delegate Assembly adopted three principles for CSBA to consider for revenue support: 1) Adequacy-Source to be adequate and stable, 2) Equity-not unfair to a particular portion of the population, and 3) Simplicity- easy to understand, comply with, and enforce. Member Ryan announced CSBA's annual meeting will be in San Diego again this year.

Member Ryan reported she attended the modernization Town Hall Forum at Chet. F. Harritt. About 10 very supportive parents attended and asked very good questions. She had a scheduling conflict and President Bartholomew will cover the Town Hall Forums at Carlton Hills and Sycamore Canyon.

Member Carlisle provided an update on the ICSC he and Member El-Hajj attended. They met with a number of brokers and developers and were able to utilize the City of Santee's booth. Councilmember Minto has been there and attended meetings with them. About 15 developers showed interest in the property.

Member Carlisle said the parents attending the Town Hall Forum at Cajon Park had good questions. It is good to be out talking with the community and answering their questions about Modernization.

Member Burns said it was a true honor to represent the Board at the State Distinguished School Awards program for Chet F. Harritt and Sycamore Canyon. Dr. Johnson and Mrs. Andrade attended also.

Member Burns said he believes it is important to address the issue of money for all the modernization projects and to communicate that the dollars have been set aside for all schools priority modernization items. The money will not be taken from Phase 2 schools for Phase 1 schools.

Member Burns expressed how remarkable it is that the District is like a family and rallies to support employees when something happens in their personal life.

President Bartholomew said they hosted another great Student Forum prior to the Board meeting. He shared that his family will be hosting a student from Taiwan, or maybe two, from the efforts of Donna Farquar.

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 Bartholomew invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent. There were no public comments.

- 1.1. **Approval of Minutes**
- 2.1. **Approval of Travel Requests**
- 2.2. **Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Warrants**
- 2.3. **Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders**
- 2.4. **Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report**
- 2.5. **Approval of 2008-09 Student Accident Insurance**
- 2.6. *(Pulled for separate consideration.)*
- 2.7. *(Pulled for separate consideration.)*
- 2.8. **Approval of Withdrawal of Membership in the San Diego County Property and Liability Joint Powers Authority and Authorization to Join the Southern California ReLIEF Joint Powers Authority**
- 2.9. **Approval of Agreement for Temporary Construction Easement, Town Center Community Park, Phase II**
- 3.1. **Approval of State Preschool Program Annual Report to California Department of Education**
- 3.2. *(Pulled for separate consideration.)*
- 3.3. **Approval of Contracts for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services**
- 3.4. **Approval of Request for Extended Field Trip for Pepper Drive School Students to Visit Knott's Soak City in Chula Vista, California**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. *(Pulled for separate consideration.)*

It was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Items with the exception of Items 2.6., 2.7., 3.2., and 4.2., which were pulled for separate consideration.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Burns

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

2.6. **Approval of Agreement for Audiovisual Services (Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.)** Member Burns will abstain from voting on this item because the agreement is with his employer.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Carlisle

Vote: 3-0 (Burns, abstain: El-Hajj, absent)

2.7. **Approval of Reclaimed Water Access Memorandum of Understanding for Carlton Hills School (Pulled by Member Carlisle for separate consideration.)** Member Carlisle asked how the metering will work. Bill Clark said there will be separate meters at the site. A second meter will be installed at the street for the reclaimed system.

Motion: Carlisle

Second: Ryan

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

3.2. Approval of 2008-09 School Schedules (Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.) Member Burns said that several years ago Carlton Oaks teachers expressed concern about the late school starting time of 8:42. They said it caused them to miss out on staff development opportunities. At that time the Board told them it would be looked at to determine if an earlier start time was possible in the future. Member Burns asked administration if the late start time was evaluated for change when assembling the school schedules for next year. Dr. Johnson said she would need to check with Bill Clark and Debbie Griffin to see if they looked to see if a change was possible for this year. Member Burns would like to have that information and believes we owe it to the Carlton Oaks staff to investigate. Dr. Johnson said she would look into the bussing schedule and other areas to see if Carlton Oaks could change their schedule to begin earlier next year without impacting other schools. Emily Andrade said school staffs voted on these schedules and she did not hear of any concerns from the Carlton Oaks staff. She assured the Board that professional development has been scheduled to accommodate the staff members from the later starting/ending schools. Member Burns said he believes it should be looked at because the Board said they would, and if at this time the Carlton Oaks schedule is satisfactory for the teachers, then nothing needs to be done. Member Burns moved to approve the 2008-09 School Schedules with the revision of kindergarten instructional minutes from 200 to 240.

Motion: Burns

Second: Ryan

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

4.2. Approval of Shared Classroom Teaching Assignments for 2008-09 (Pulled by Member Carlisle for separate consideration.) Member Carlisle asked if the number of shared assignments has increased over the years. John Tofflemire said this is the first time in a number of years that there has been a significant decline in the number of shared contracts due to staff returning to full time or retiring.

Motion: Carlisle

Second: Burns

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

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

1.1. Governor's May Revise Budget Update

Dr. Johnson introduced the Governor's May Revise. She said there are two issues to address: the summary of the impact of the State Budget and how the Board would like administration to bring forward information for discretionary dollars. Bill Clark thanked Member Ryan for her report from the Delegate Assembly and said it was a very unique opportunity for her to be able to be involved in the State dialogue. He said the May Revise showed some improvement for education over the January proposed budget. The budget fully funded Prop 98 and our District will see about \$1M in reduced funding instead of the \$3M projected in January. The District should be able to absorb this funding decrease through the BAC recommendations that will be presented next month and the \$650,000 resulting from the early retirement incentive plan. Mr. Clark said restricted reductions of about 6½% are still in place and 2008-09 allocations have been shared with principals. There is concern for the possibility of the State withholding payments to District because of their low cash revenues so we are preparing and hope to qualify for a TRANS loan.

Member Ryan said it is predicted that there will not be a final State budget until September. President Bartholomew said we need to be cautious and wait before discussing spending. Board members agreed with administration's recommendations to hold on 2008-2009 needs.

Reading Committee Phase 1 Update

Dr. Johnson began the report on two phases of the Reading Committee. She shared the composition of the Reading Committee membership, which includes internal school educators, outside experts, non public school experts, parents, and consultants and said the committee is doing some exciting things. Dr. Johnson introduced Bonner Montler, resource teacher for assessment, who shared the language arts proficiency data from last year's STAR test. The data shows an average of 39% of students who are not proficient in reading, and this average has remained somewhat stable over the past three years. With this percentage of students not proficient in reading, many students are struggling and we need to see what is happening and how we can serve them better. The data shows that the percentage of non-proficient readers in special education is 80%. Special education students are not increasing their proficiency as they get older.

Member Burns asked if 80% non-proficient students in special education is typical in other districts. Dr. Johnson said the data has not been compared with other districts at this time.

Kristin Baranski, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, reported that of the 39% of students that are not proficient, 67% are at a basic level, which means they have skills that are easier to use to assist them in meeting proficiency by finding the right methodology.

Mrs. Baranski said attendance seems to matter in the variance in students that are proficient versus non-proficient and investigating social supports for students referred to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB) is important. We also need to intensify early childhood education.

Member Burns asked if there will be action plans put together to directly address each area of concern; attendance, special education, EL, etc. Dr. Johnson said yes, having the data helps to find the supports that are needed to produce results for students.

Mrs. Baranski and Mr. Montler shared how data can now be found to see how other social factors may impact proficiency levels, such as parent education status, gender, and retention. There is much more information to be retrieved from the data.

Dr. Johnson said the data comparing students that have been retained with students that have not been retained shows that proficiency levels do not increase. Something is not happening for students who have been retained and if a child is retained, to make a difference we must do something different.

Member Burns asked if 39% non-proficiency is typical with other districts. Mrs. Baranski said compared to other districts 39% non-proficiency is a high number, especially with our high API score.

Member Ryan said seeing no increase in proficiency of retained students may not be academic but may be emotional and it would be great to see what students' other issues may be. In junior high the emotion of being retained becomes greater. Member Burns asked how many students are typically retained each year. Mrs. Andrade said the average each year is about 50 across the District, mostly being K-1 retentions.

Dr. Johnson shared a chart showing the interventions that are available at each school site. She said although many of the same interventions are available, the protocols are different at different schools. There are good intentions, but without a protocol and sufficient training we don't know what is working or not working. Member Bartholomew said reading for the Accelerated Reading program does not seem to be as delineated as the other subject areas, especially in the area of homework. Dr. Johnson said Accelerated Reader is currently under scrutiny and is being used in a variety of ways in classrooms. It is supposed to be supplementary, not as direct instruction, and administration is investigating to see how it might be delivered in a more beneficial way for students.

Dr. Johnson said the next step is looking at ways to address the needs of students based on the data presented. One possibility is hiring a consultant to do nationwide searches and in-depth research. She invited Board members to observe the Reading Committee meetings to see the work they are doing. There is a need to investigate what works for students and it is an enormous task that will involve an intensive answer. Administration will be sharing this data with principals, vice principals, and the Reading Committee members. There will be a cost as we try to solve this problem.

President Bartholomew asked how strong the connection is between a student's reading ability and writing ability. Mrs. Baranski said there is a connection and it becomes stronger as the grade level increases.

Member Burns asked if administration learned anything after receiving the reading specialist school site job assignments. Dr. Johnson said yes that there are inconsistent duties around the District and the information will be analyzed for effective support of student reading. Member Carlisle said he would like to see comparative data from other schools districts in the county and state. He believes 39% non-proficient is not appropriate. He believes it would be a disservice to focus on bringing students at basic to proficiency and not provide what is needed to students that are below basic. Member Carlisle asked if any students in GATE classes were non-proficient. Mrs. Baranski said there are a few. She explained that students may be identified gifted for strengths in other areas and some students choose not to be. Member Carlisle said he agrees that existing programs are not being utilized the way they were intended and that is a reason we are not seeing results. It is an important component to deploy the programs the way they are intended. He would like to see the need to have clear communication between the teachers, psychologists, counselors, and reading specialists addressed in the study so there are no obstructions in a student's achievement. Dr. Johnson will add communication to the committee study.

Member Ryan thanked Mrs. Baranski, Mr. Montler, and Dr. Johnson for the important data and said she is looking forward to implementing consistent protocols. President Bartholomew also thanked them for the data and believes that it is important to look closely at the issues in order to improve. Member Burns said when you achieve high API scores, in order to continue to grow you need to begin to dissect what you are doing and he thanked the team for being honest about the issues so we can improve the instruction for students..

2.1. Monthly Financial Report

Bill Clark reported in the monthly financial report the District continues the positive pattern into the year. In April, expenses dropped to less than 1% of the same month in the prior year. There continues to be a decline in attendance this year and this may be an area to re-address next year. There is a current fund balance of \$180,975 above the reserve established for economic uncertainty available for Board designation. Member Ryan asked about the reserve balance and if that was included in the reduction considerations. Mr. Clark said during long term planning, the Board asked that we restore our reserve. There is currently \$1.2 M above the 3% state required reserve and this will not be impacted by reductions. Member Ryan moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2008.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Burns

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

2.2. Report on Spanish Class and Approval of Agreement with Grossmont Union High School District to Continue to Offer Spanish 1 to Eighth Grade Students in 2008-2009

Emily Andrade reported in the strategic plan it was identified that foreign language was a need and the District worked with the Grossmont High School District and provided a Spanish class to eighth grade students last semester at Hill Creek School. Twenty-one students completed the program and will be able to enroll in Spanish 2 in high school next year. Although the students can enter Spanish 2 next year, based on state law they cannot receive high school credit. She would like to offer the program again next year and the teacher has agreed to continue. The cost to provide the Spanish class next year would not exceed \$20,000, which is cost of the teacher. This would be funded from the general fund and is included in the projected budget for next year. Member Ryan said she believes it should be continued and asked if students from schools other than Hill Creek participated. Mrs. Andrade said there were students from a variety of schools. Member Ryan asked if there would be enough interest to offer more than one class. Board members concurred that offering the class to more students would be a great opportunity and could possibly be funded from the extra reserve dollars. Member Ryan moved to approve the Spanish 1 class for the 2008-09 school year and to proceed with contract negotiations. Her motion also included direction to administration to see if there was enough interest by students and a teacher available to offer a second class, maybe on the west side of Santee. If a second class becomes possible, administration will return to the Board for budgetary approval.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Burns

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

3.1. Formation of Instructional Minutes and Modified Day Committee

Emily Andrade said the Board asked her to return with the specific charge and the composition of the Modified Day Committee. She shared the charge: "To review, update, and streamline the instructional minutes and modified day plans." The committee would be comprised of at least one Board member, educational services staff, a minimum of four teachers representing diverse grade levels, four parents from a variety of schools, and at least two site administrators. She requested a Board member representative. Member Ryan would like to attend the meetings whenever possible but would like an alternate that is available to attend when she is unavailable. Board members suggested asking Member El-Hajj, who was not in attendance, to serve as an alternate on this committee with Member Ryan. Member Burns moved to approve the formation of the Instructional Minutes and Modified Day Committee.

Motion: Burns

Second: Ryan

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

1.1. First Reading: BP 5144, Student Discipline, BP 5145.3, Student Nondiscrimination and Harassment

Board members reviewed the proposed revisions to Board Policy 5144 and Board Policy 5145.3. No action was taken and these policies will return for a second reading and approval.

2.1. Second Reading: Revised BP 5131.4, Student Disturbances

2.2. Revised BP 5030 Student Wellness

Member Burns moved to approve revised BP 5131.4, Student Disturbances and revised BP 5030 Student Wellness.

Motion: Burns

Second: Ryan

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj, absent)

H. ORGANIZATION BUSINESS

Member Ryan reported parents expressed concern at the Town Hall Forum that we do not allow students to enter the school campus until about 5 minutes before school begins. She has observed this and believes that it is very easy for a student to wander off after being delivered to school. She would like to have students congregate in an area inside the school gates. Parents often bring their children at the last minutes because they do not want them standing around outside and this may contribute to the traffic congestion in parking lots. She would like to have a conversation about this in the future. Dr. Johnson said principals set a time when supervision begins at the schools. She will need to get information from principals about the norm and the rationale, which may differ from site to site.

Member Ryan said she understands that Santee Success Program has some real challenges this year and currently has a couple of very disruptive students. She is concerned about the high number of students and asked administration to look into how the disruptive students are impacting the class. Mrs. Andrade said a second teacher has been assigned to the class due to having 14 students and she has not been made aware of severe disruption. One student was recently suspended and will not be returning to the class.

Member Burns said based on the fact that some students are placed at the Santee Success Academy by administration, he would like to see a process in place for discipline when students do not go through the expulsion hearing process.

Member Burns asked administration to provide information to the Board about rising transportation fuel cost and how it is being addressed. Mr. Clark said the costs are exceeding the budgeted expense.

I. CLOSED SESSION

President Bartholomew announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Govt. Code § 54957)

2. Conference with Labor Negotiator (Govt. Code § 54956.8)

Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Assistant Superintendent

Employee Organizations: California School Employees Association

Purpose: Negotiations

3. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

Superintendent

The Board entered closed session at 9:32 p.m.

J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:15 p.m. No action was reported. President Bartholomew adjourned the regular meeting adjourned at 11:15 in memory of Jeff Schultz.

Dustin Burns, Clerk

Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary