

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

June 9, 2020
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present:

Dustin Burns, President
Barbara Ryan, Vice President
Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk
Dianne El-Hajj, Member
Ken Fox, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Kristin Baranski, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services
Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

B. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Burns invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. He explained that given the current circumstances with COVID-19, the public was given the opportunity so submit comments online or by phone prior to the meeting. There were two public comments.

Monica Farren, parent of a kindergartner and a 2nd grader, submitted the following comment:

I'd like to see Santee School district take a stand against racism. We have a racist reputation in our east county community. We need to make our voices louder than our reputation as Santee is filled with good people who are willing to do the work and unpack their own embedded prejudices. How does this begin? With education. We need to message the community that racism is not tolerated. So far the messaging feels as if we are not willing to take a hard line against those in our Santee community who may be upset to hear this. We need to train our teachers to not be afraid to talk about issues of bias and race. We need to teach history from an accurate and inclusive perspective. Our students can handle complex topics. Our young minds can understand that all events in life do not have a happy ending. Our schools can cultivate change makers and lead by example with advocacy and service. I love Santee. I love my children's school. Thank you for all your dedication to my family and the Santee community as a whole.

Haley Shumaker, submitted the following comment:

In light of recent current events, I would like to know what steps the school board and district will undertake to counter both systemic racism, and overt acts of racism that have occurred in our community. Will the district be implementing additional curriculum to address these issues? How can parents and students become involved in a deeper discussion around racial inequality? Thank you.

The Board expressed their gratitude for the comments and shared they would receive a written response.

C. CLOSED SESSION

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

1. California State of Emergency and Impact of COVID-19 Virus (Gov't. Code § 54957)

The Board entered closed session at 6:05 p.m.

D. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 8:15 p.m., and reported no action was taken.

E. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the special meeting of June 9, 2020 was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.


Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk


Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary