

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

June 23, 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
Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

President Burns acknowledged those in attendance and shared meeting protocols due to current COVID-19 measures.

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 no public comments.

C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEM

1. Educational Priorities for the 2020-21 School Year

Member Burns explained that during a recent survey of current Santee School District families, 98% of responding families (73% total response rate) stated their children would return to a school campus in the fall and 2% requested additional information for an alternative school option (e.g. homeschool). Based on this data, the Board of Education would discuss the educational priorities associated with the 2020-21 school year.

Superintendent Baranski shared since the closure on March 16, the District has been planning for the return of the students and staff. While receiving guidance from many organizations on how to safely reopen schools this fall, the District is expected to create a District re-opening plan specific to Santee School District.

She explained that during a recent call with the San Diego County Superintendents, Districts received updated public health orders, and asked if a school district re-opening plan could be created in lieu of the business re-opening plan provided by County health officials across the State. Superintendent Baranski noted that in a briefing today with the County Public Health Department, the Districts learned that this template is almost ready.

She noted the Board and Executive Council have all been consumers of local and State guidance, through webinars and dialoguing with local officials and educators across the County on plans for re-opening.

Superintendent Baranski shared the District formed a Logistics Committee. She explained the committee consists of 16 staff members (certificated, classified, and management) who will work on the supports necessary for students to return to campus on August 19. Information was gathered on the parents intentions to return to a school campus in the fall or their interest in a home school program; and staff has been asked to identify their ability to return to work. Superintendent Baranski shared it was her intent to discuss the District's local priorities given our commitment to student learning and well-being.

President Burns shared the parents and community's interest in knowing plans for the 2020-21 school year. He mentioned the Board and Administration have been doing their due diligence in listening to State and local guidelines and protocols for the most up-to-date information to make the best decision for the Santee students and community. President Burns shared tonight would be the first step in discussing the Board's priorities. He explained that the Board would not be approving a specific plan, but would like the Board to discuss and take action on their priorities for the 2020-21 school year.

Upon discussion, it was consensus that the Board's priority is to bring all students back to campus for daily, full time instruction beginning August 19, 2020, the first day of school; in addition to supporting families who want their children to remain at home in the fall with enrollment in the homeschool program. Member E-Hajj moved approval.

President Burns asked that their action and priority be communicated to staff and parents. He suggested that with the constant changes in health orders, the District gather input from parents and staff, in case students are unable to return to campus. The Board asked that a message be sent to all parents and staff to solicit input that the Board can use in case the students are not able to return to campus.

President Burns suggested the Board visit classrooms to see furniture layouts meeting social distancing guidelines, if needed. He emphasized the importance of hearing from all stakeholders to help the Board with making the final decision. Members El-Hajj, Levens-Craig, and Ryan agreed to work with the Superintendent to on gathering staff and parent input.

Superintendent Baranski shared communication can be sent to parents notifying them of the Board's priority; and solicit their input on their priorities (i.e., hybrid, distance learning, etc.) in case the situation changes and students are not able to return to campus; and send an email to staff soliciting their input as well.

Motion:	<u>El-Hajj</u>	Burns	<u>Aye</u>	El-Hajj	<u>Aye</u>
Second:	<u>Levens-Craig</u>	Ryan	<u>Aye</u>	Fox	<u>Aye</u>
Vote:	<u>5-0</u>	Levens-Craig	<u>Aye</u>		

President Burns noted that Santee Teachers Association President, Melanie Hirahara was in attendance and offered her the opportunity to speak; he noted the Board was unable to respond.

Mrs. Hirahara expressed her gratitude for soliciting input from all stakeholders and noted the importance of establishing a timeline. She shared being part of the Logistics Reopening Committee and the work it entails. Mrs. Hirahara shared once the input is heard, and a plan is implemented, the Associations will want to negotiate the change in working conditions, if any. On behalf of the Board, President Burns expressed his appreciation to Administration and staff for all of their hard work during this difficult time.

D. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the special meeting of June 23, 2020 was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.


Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk


Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary