

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

MINUTES
May 27, 2009

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President El-Hajj

Members present:

Dustin Burns, Vice President
Barbara Ryan, Clerk
Allen Carlisle, Member
Dan Bartholomew, Member

Staff present:

Emily Andrade, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Bob Kull, Coordinator of Student Behavior

B. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

There were no comments from the public.

C. CLOSED SESSION

1. Consideration of Student Matters (Ed. Code S48918) Students #4-08, #5-08, and #7-08

The Board entered Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. for student discipline hearings for students #4-08, #5-08, and #7-08. Oral and documentary evidence were received. Vice President Burns announced that the Board members would deliberate and all other persons were asked to leave the room.

D. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:40 p.m.

1. Action on Student Hearings

It was motioned by Member Carlisle to expel student #4-08 from the Santee School District from May 27, 2009 to August 1, 2009, for violations of California Education Code Sections §48900 (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and §48900 (k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the authority of school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties, and Santee School District Board Policies 5144.1: Pupil Discipline: Suspension and Expulsion 5144.4: Administrative Review, and related Administrative Regulations. This action is based on the following Findings of Fact in accordance with California Education Code §48900.2. The specific Findings of Fact are:

- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #4-08 has attended several behavior assemblies, SAT meetings, counseling with Principal and Vice Principal, detentions, in-school suspensions, 8 days out of school suspension this school year. Interventions have not provided the desired results.*
- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #4-08 has a history of suspensions for possession of controlled substance, major defiance, violence, threats, disruption, and sexual intimidation.*

The expulsion shall be immediately suspended herewith, and the student shall complete the following elements in a Rehabilitation Plan. The student shall:

- Remain at current school where he/she was transferred after administrative review.
- Receive no new suspensions.
- Attend school regularly with no unexcused absences or tardies.
- Adhere to a student behavior plan developed by school administration.
- Complete a counseling program by August 1, 2009, for decision-making and peer pressure and drug and alcohol abuse prevention/treatment. If the student does not attend counseling regularly, parent shall immediately notify the school administration.
- Not participate in end-of-year special eighth grade activities.
- Prepare a letter of apology to the School Board and School Administration at and submit to administration by August 1, 2009.
- Complete all elements of this Rehabilitation Plan by August 1, 2009 and present documentation to verify completion.

The parent must meet with the Coordinator of Student Behavior by June 3, 2009, to review and sign the Rehabilitation Plan. If the parent fails to meet within the designated time and/or does not sign the Rehabilitation Plan, the student may be expelled without further Board action. Upon satisfactory completion of all activities in this Rehabilitation Plan, the student record will be expunged of this expulsion order.

Motion: Carlisle

Second: Ryan

Vote: 4-0

It was motioned by Member Bartholomew to expel student # 5-08 from the Santee School District from May 27, 2009 to August 1, 2009, for violations of California Education Code Sections §48900 (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and §48900 (k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the authority of school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties, and Santee School District Board Policies 5144.1: Pupil Discipline: Suspension and Expulsion 5144.4: Administrative Review, and related Administrative Regulations. This action is based on the following Findings of Fact in accordance with California Education Code §48900.2. The specific Findings of Fact are:

- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #5-08 has attended several behavioral assemblies, counseling with Principal and Vice Principal, academic counseling, truancy letters, SARB, AT-Risk meetings with family, SAT meetings, in-school suspensions, special education services, 14 days out of school suspension this year and 3 administrative reviews.*
- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #5-08 has a history of suspensions for possession of controlled substances, defiance, disruption, possession of tobacco and lighter, harassment, violence, obscene gestures, threats, rock throwing, profanity and physical aggression.*

The expulsion shall be immediately suspended herewith, and the student shall complete the following elements in a Rehabilitation Plan. The student shall:

- Remain at current school where he/she was transferred after administrative review.
- Maintain 2.0 GPA for academic, effort, and citizenship performance.
- Receive no new suspensions.
- Attend school regularly with no unexcused absences or tardies.
- Adhere to a student behavior plan developed by school administration.
- Perform 10 hours of community service by August 1, 2009.
- Complete a counseling program by August 1, 2009, for decision-making and peer pressure and drug and alcohol abuse prevention/treatment. If the student does not attend counseling regularly, parent shall immediately notify the school administration.
- Not participate in end-of-year special eighth grade activities.
- Remain free of illegal substances and participate in a drug testing program
- Complete all elements of this Rehabilitation Plan by August 1, 2009 and present documentation to verify completion.

The parent must meet with the Coordinator of Student Behavior by June 3, 2009, to review and sign the Rehabilitation Plan. If the parent fails to meet within the designated time and/or does not sign the Rehabilitation Plan, the student may be expelled without further Board action. Upon satisfactory completion of all activities in this Rehabilitation Plan, the student record will be expunged of this expulsion order.

Motion: Bartholomew

Second: Carlisle

Vote: 4-0

It was motioned by Member Ryan to expel student # 7-08 from the Santee School District from May 27, 2009 to December 31, 2009, for violations of California Education Code Sections §48900 (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a weapon (firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object) of no reasonable use to the pupil at school, and §48900 (h) Use of tobacco or possession of tobacco on school property, and §48900 (k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the authority of school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties, and Santee School District Board Policies 5144.1: Pupil Discipline: Suspension and Expulsion 5144.4: Administrative Review, and related Administrative Regulations.

This action is based on the following Findings of Fact in accordance with California Education Code §48900.2. The specific Findings of Fact are:

- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(1) Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #7-08 has attended several behavioral assemblies, counseling with Principal and Vice Principal, at-risk meetings, attendance letters, 3 SAT meetings, in-school suspension, out of school suspensions, and school community service.*
- *Education Code Section 48915(b)(2) Due to the nature of the act, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others. The facts that support this conclusion are: Student #7-08 has a history of suspensions for cigarette and lighter possession, violence, defiance, disruption, writing graffiti, fighting and presently in possession of a switchblade with a 4" locking blade, which is a felony in the State of California.*

The expulsion shall be immediately suspended herewith, and the student shall complete the following elements in a Rehabilitation Plan. The student shall:

- Attend remain at current school where he/she transferred after administration review.
- Maintain 2.0 GPA for academic, effort, and citizenship performance.
- Receive no new suspensions.
- Attend school regularly with no unexcused absences or tardies.
- Adhere to a student behavior plan developed by school administration.
- Complete all elements of this Rehabilitation Plan by December 31, 2009, and present documentation to verify completion.

The parent must meet with the Coordinator of Student Behavior by June 3, 2009, to review and sign the Rehabilitation Plan. If the parent fails to meet within the designated time and/or does not sign the Rehabilitation Plan, the student may be expelled without further Board action. Upon satisfactory completion of all activities in this Rehabilitation Plan, the student record will be expunged of this expulsion order.

Motion: Ryan

Second: Bartholomew

Vote: 4-0

E. DISCUSSION ANDPOR ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval to Contract with Kontraband Indiction and Detection Services (K.I.D.S.), Inc. for Canine Drug Detection Services

Emily Andrade shared student data on the number of student incidents involving drugs or drug paraphernalia. There were 13 incidents in 2006-07, 14 in 2007-08, and 16 in 2008-09. She said in response to the Board's request for administration to investigate the possibility of bringing canine drug detection units to schools she has found a company that provides this service to schools, parents, businesses, and law enforcement.

Use of a canine detection unit is another tool to minimize the potential of having contraband brought onto school sites. The company will provide a presentation to the Board members at no charge with a signed annual agreement. The firm has worked in the San Ysidro School District. Mrs. Andrade said she called the company used by Grossmont but they had not responded.

The cost for this service is \$500 per team, per day, and the dogs can visit 3 schools per day. A full year contract is also available. Member Carlisle asked what an annual contract is. Mrs. Andrade said the annual contract is approximately \$5,600 for 10 visits per year.)

Mrs. Andrade said there is a time limitation so near the end of the school year. The only date available at this time is June 10th. She is concerned if this is in place before the end of the year, it is critical that there is time to inform families that this will be taking place. Mrs. Andrade asked the pleasure of the Board.

Member Carlisle asked what a school visit by the canines would look like. Mrs. Andrade said the dogs are brought into classrooms after children have left the classroom. The dogs do not sniff individual students but enter the empty classroom and sniff the room and items in the classrooms, such as desks, jackets, and backpacks. If the dog responds, the item is taken to the office and administration requests the student owner to empty or open the item. If the student does not agree to this, law enforcement is called. The dogs are trained to sniff drugs, tobacco, and also prescription medication. Mrs. Andrade recommends if the Board wishes to move forward that only junior high is checked at this time.

The Board discussed the communication with parents and asked if School Messenger could call only home of 7 and 8 grades students to not frighten younger students. Mrs. Andrade said yes, calls can be isolated to only junior high. Member Burns would like to include 6th grade students also. Schools discussed to initially screen were Rio Seco, Chet. F. Harritt, and Carlton Hills.

Member Ryan said if you notify the parents, they will tell the students and this would warn the students. Mrs. Andrade said knowing dogs may come on campus acts as a deterrent which is one of our goals, to keep the drugs away from our schools. The company said it is typical to not tell the students when they are coming but parents should be notified that the plan is in place. Member Burns suggested a drug assembly be held at each school for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to share the policies and consequences. The parents would be notified about the assembly. After the assembly the dogs could be brought in.

Following Board discussion Member Carlisle moved to approve to bring the canine detection unit in on June 10th to Rio Seco, Chet. F. Harritt, and Carlton Hills, substituting another school at the discretion of administration if a named school is at Disneyland that day. Administration will notify parents about the use of canine detection by School Messenger.

Motion: Carlisle

Second: Bartholomew

Vote: 4-0 (El-Hajj absent)

Member Burns asked Mrs. Andrade to develop a School Messenger script and send to the Board prior to sending out to parents.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The May 27, 2009 special meeting adjourned 9:00 p.m.