

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

July 20, 2004  
**MINUTES**

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

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Members present:

Dianne El-Hajj, President  
Cathy Abel, Vice President  
Dustin Burns, Clerk  
Julie McIntosh, Member  
Barbara Ryan, Member

Staff present:

Dr. Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board  
Dr. Patrick Shaw, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services  
Linda Vail, Executive Secretary and Recording Secretary

2. President El-Hajj invited Bev Blaylock, Director of Technology and Communication Services, to lead the members, staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
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. Requests for Use of Facilities
  - 1.2. Enrollment Report
  - 1.3. Developer Fees Collection Report
  - 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

**C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

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

Mr. Gregg Guenther, citizen of Santee, spoke on the EMF report from the County of San Diego.

Dr. Ronald Schissler, Santee resident, spoke about the Riverwalk development and the density due to a zoning change several years ago that will allow 71 single family detached homes and 147 row homes. He would like the city to reconsider this development to be 140 units and a more family friendly neighborhood with yards.

**D. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

A Public Hearing on a Proposal to Submit a Parcel Tax Measure to the District's Voters at the November 2, 2004, Statewide General Election and the Board's Intent to Adopt a Resolution Ordering a Parcel Tax Election, Requesting the County Elections Department to Conduct the Election, Requesting Consolidation of the Election, and Specifications of the Election Order.

President El-Hajj opened the public hearing. There were no comments. The hearing was closed.

**E. CONSENT ITEMS**

Items listed under Consent are considered to be routine and are all acted on by the Board with one single motion. It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items.

**Superintendent**

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes

**Business Services**

- 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 Reports
- 2.5. Acceptance of Donations
- 2.6. Approval/Ratification of 2004-05 Annual Agreements**
- 2.7. Authorization to Reject Bid #03/04-007-02, Chet F. Harritt School Lighting Retrofit
- 2.8. Approval of Interdistrict Attendance Agreement
- 2.9. Approval of Student Teaching Agreement with San Francisco State University
- 2.10. Approval of Student Teaching Agreement with Christian Heritage College
- 2.11. Approval of Response to Request for Agency Recommendation Form
- 2.12. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between The SPARK Programs and Santee School District for SPARK Physical Education Programs
- 2.13. Approval of Revised Lease Agreement with On-Site Residents
- 2.14. Approval of Outdoor Education Contracts (pulled for separate consideration)
- 2.15. Approval of Portable Building Moves and Set-Up Change Order No. 1

**Educational Services**

- 3.1. Approval of Annual Evaluation of the Alternative Education School
- 3.2. Approval of Administrative Recommendation for Districtwide 4 - 8 Special Education Language Arts Adoption and Purchase
- 3.3. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between the Grossmont Adult School, Grossmont Union High School District and the Santee School District for the C-BET Program
- 3.4. Approval of Agreement with the San Diego County Office of Education for Participation in AB 466 Professional Development (pulled for separate consideration)

**Human Resources**

- 4.1. Personnel, Regular (to become a part of the minutes)
- 4.2. Approval of Appointment of Vice Principal
- 4.3. Adoption of Resolution No. 0405-03 to Reduce Hours of Identified Classified Employees and to Lay Off Identified Classified Employees

*Motion: Abel*

*Second: Burns*

*Vote: 5-0*

- E.2.14 Approval of Outdoor Education Contracts. Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.

- E.3.4 Approval of Agreement with the San Diego County Office of Education for Participation in AB 466 Professional Development. Pulled by Member Burns for separate consideration.

It was moved and seconded to approved consent items E.2.14. and E.3.4.

*Motion: McIntosh*

*Second: Abel*

*Vote: 4-0 (Burns-abstain)*

- E.2.6 Approval/Ratification of 2004-05 Annual Agreements (Pulled for separate consideration)  
Member Burns asked about using several different attorneys for a variety of services instead of consolidating services from one attorney. Discussion revealed that attorneys usually work in a single area of expertise and that the hourly rate for services would total to approximately the same. Dr. Johnson will investigate if it is feasible to use a single law firm for all the needed purposes and if it would be a cost savings.

The question was also raised about the various communication services being used.

Bev Blaylock will check to see if all the vendors are still being used and to what extent.

It was moved and seconded to approve consent item E.2.6.

*Motion: Abel*

*Second: Ryan*

*Vote: 4-0 (Burns-abstain)*

- E.4.2. Approval of Appointment of Vice Principal (Pulled for separate consideration) Dr. Johnson reported that interviews were held to fill vice principal vacancies in the six vice principal positions that were Board approved on May 18, 2004. At this time we have 2 .5 FTE for Board approval. Dr. Johnson recommended Joanne Schultz from La Mesa Spring Valley and Terry Heck, from Poway for the two full time positions. Dr. Johnson recommended Kim Lytle, currently a PAR teacher in Santee School District for the halftime position. School assignments will be forthcoming.

A third vice principal candidate was identified as a possible selection should any additional vacancies occur in the near future.

*Motion: Ryan*

*Second: Burns*

*Vote: 5-0*

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

### **Superintendent**

#### **1.1. Board Discussion on Possible Ballot Initiative on Growth in the City of Santee**

Mrs. Maria Lenhoff shared that she has been questioned about what her future plans for Sycamore Canyon were. She stated that she will work to support responsible growth in Santee to increase student enrollment and increase developer fees income. She will remain on the Superintendent's Communication Committee and assist in any Santee School District or Foundation fundraising efforts.

Member Ryan moved that the Board oppose any ballot initiative that opposes the Santee general plan. Member Burns shared that there was no mention of educating children in the brochure received from a local developer. President El-Hajj reiterated that the goal of the Board is to provide quality education for students who reside in Santee and does not feel it is her job as a school board member to support or oppose development in the City. Board members believe that responsible growth is needed and as school board members they are responsible to prepare for growth with a plan for educating children. Although they do not make the decisions about growth, they must react to City decisions.

Two Board members, President El-Hajj and Member Ryan, will be meeting with Nick Arthur. It was also noted that educational plans and agreements made with previous developers are no longer valid with new developers and must be readdressed. Member Burns would like the entire Board to be involved in discussions with new developers regarding their plans for education in the community.

Member Ryan's motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

*Motion: Ryan*

*Second: Burns*

*Vote: 5-0*

#### **1.2. Authorization to Bid Student Absence Calling System**

Dr. Johnson presented information on the pursuit of a student absence calling system to enhance attendance and assist in safety of students. Member Ryan asked if this system was comparable to the high schools' system where the experience has been to receive messages or calls late in the evening and did not assist in parents quickly knowing that their child was absent. It was recommended that a system would also have several numbers available to contact parents. Some questions that the Board will look at when bids are received are:

- Will they call more than one number?
- Do they leave a message?
- Do they call within a certain time frame?
- How valid are claims that messages are not received?

Bev Blaylock stated that new systems allow for cell phones and/or emails. Member Burns recommends that when she finds a system that the District would consider, she visit a school district that is using the system to assess the actual use.

Member McIntosh shared the great safety feature of this type of a system for younger children who do not show up at school and parents can be notified shortly after school begins. All Board members shared the concern that calls would need to go out early to be of a safety benefit. The goal would be within two (2) hours of school beginning.

Member Burns is interested in the emergency component and what the extra cost would be. Vice President Abel moved to authorize to seek bids for a student calling system.

*Motion: Abel*

*Second: McIntosh*

*Vote: 5-0*

- 1.3. Adoption of Resolution #0405-02 Ordering a Parcel Assessment Election, Requesting the County Elections Department to Conduct the Election, Requesting Consolidation of the Election, and Specifications of the Election Order

Dr. Johnson presented Resolution #0405-02 and asked the Board for input and any edits they may like to include in the ballot language and or resolution. The final resolution can return to the August 3rd meeting.

Board members discussed if vice principals should remain on the list for possible Parcel Tax expenditures. Member Burns says that those expenditures align with the priorities of the Board. Member Abel suggested removing vice principals from the list in order to avoid any confusion about administrative salaries being paid from parcel tax revenue. Member Ryan suggested that music be added to the list. After further discussion it was agreed to complete the list as follows:

- Ensure adequate textbooks and instructional materials
- Reinstate full district funded reading specialists *at each school site (if word count allows)*
- Support programs which ensure a safe school environment
- Restore access to library during school hours
- Reinstate music program

Dan Bartholomew spoke about the verbiage use and asked if there is a need to discuss verbiage to try to impact voters. The success depends on providing tangible information about why people did not vote for the measure last time. He suggested that the Board obtain information on why the parcel tax did not pass and stated that in March the measure was competing with many other school bonds. He recommended that if the sacrifices that were made were shared with voters and that math, reading, writing, technology, were items that parents would be more interested in supporting in order to make children successful as adults.

Mrs. Maria Lenhoff suggested that the Board use the Superintendent's Communication Forum as a vehicle to get input on the language that should go on the ballot. President El-Hajj thanked Mrs. Lenhoff for her input but shared that the information must be provided to the Registrar of Voters before the Forum will meet again and that although there were parents on the committee, the committee was comprised mostly of employees. Dr. Johnson shared that the Forum could be used as a vehicle for support because much information could be shared there and distributed and shared with others by committee members.

The Resolution will return, with the prescribed language and after legal review, to the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting for approval.

- 1.4. Superintendent's Business Roundtable

Dr. Johnson presented information on the implementation of a Business Roundtable, inviting businesses to meet and speak with the Board and Superintendent in order for the District to be a viable and influential force in the community and to speak about issues of the community in a forum of a variety of community stakeholders. The charge of the committee is to promote education and participate with business partners as a voice in the community. Members would be invited to possible quarterly meetings to communicate and share information, network, and to promote the school district in the community.

Board members volunteering to be representatives are Barbara Ryan and Dustin Burns. Member Ryan suggested that the group be comprised of business members and to be cautious to not become a political committee as other districts have experienced. Member McIntosh feels that it is important to build relationships with community businesses.

Member Ryan recommended that "market their programs" (meaning businesses), be removed from the charge and changed to "build mutual partnerships." She also said promoting and forming positive relationships with businesses and having District educational interaction with businesses is what the Board here for.

1.5. Eighth Grade Student Participation in Board Meetings

Dr. Johnson presented information and possible ways to integrate student participation in Board meetings. Member Burns supports having eighth graders participate in Board meetings, possibly in Board Communication. He feels it is important to set up dialogues with students to keep kids in the forefront as to the purpose of the Board. Board members decided to follow Option B for a meeting structure which would create a "Student Advisory Council" that would meet with the Board periodically on a pre-selected topic. President El-Hajj suggested that the first topic be dress code. The meetings should begin in October and site administrators would not need to attend. President El-Hajj and Member Burns would work together to create an agenda.

**Business Services**

2.1 Approval of 2003-04 Budget Revisions for June

The budget revisions for June were presented showing an estimated uncommitted ending balance of \$129,603. It was moved and seconded to approve the budget revisions.

*Motion: Burns*

*Second: McIntosh*

*Vote: 5-0*

**Educational Services**

3.1. End-of-Year Report for Advisory Council for Instruction (ACI)

Dr. Patrick Shaw presented the annual report of the Advisory Council for Instruction (ACI), which summarized the goals that were met. Dr. Shaw will return to the Board in the fall to seek agenda topics for 2004-05.

Member McIntosh asked about the consistency of enrichment classes at all of the schools and would like to see ACI take a good look at the GATE program next year. Dr. Shaw will get the previous ACI information on GATE to Member McIntosh.

3.2. Report on Primary Intervention Program (PIP)

Dr. Shaw introduced Patty Tastad and Meredith Riffel to share a report on the grant funded Primary Intervention Program (PIP) program. The program serves children who are experiencing mild school adjustments. In the 2003-04 school year 171 students were served. The program is funded for one more year at this time.

3.3. Eighth Grade Student Attendance Report for the 2003-04 School Year

Dr. Shaw returned to the Board with information that was requested at the June 1 meeting in order to assist the Board in making an informed decision on the proposed attendance goals. The data showed that the majority of students with high absence rates had greater than a 2.0 GPA. With that information Member Ryan moved to remove attendance as a criteria for participation in eighth grade promotion activities on the proposed Board Policies and Administrative Regulations. The motion was seconded and approved.

*Motion: Ryan*

*Second: Abel*

*Vote: 4 – 1 (Burns, no)*

The Board will bring attendance as a topic to the Student Advisory Council. Dr. Johnson will make the required revisions to the proposed policies and return them to the Board at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Dr. Johnson requested approval to seek target groups for attendance goals with schools identifying their own target groups. All members except Member Burns supported the schools identifying their own target groups.

**Human Resources**

4.1. Discussion on Replacement of Vacant Classified Positions

Dr. Johnson shared that the Board had requested to review vacant positions prior to filling them. She asked the Board if they would like vacant positions brought to the Board in a public forum. The Board members do not feel a need review a position if the position has been budgeted and there is still a need as determined by the Superintendent. The Board will review positions being filled when the item is brought for final Board approval.

*Motion: Abel*

*Second: McIntosh*

*Vote: 5-0*

**G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS**

1. First Readings (None)
2. Second Reading: New and Revised Board Policies and Administrative Regulations on Attendance

The new and revised Board Policies and Administrative Regulations listed are presented for second reading. It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt the new and revised Board Policies in order to implement the attendance improvement program in the 2004-05 school year.

Revised BP 5112	Pupil Attendance
New AR 5112	Attendance Improvement
New BP 5112.3	School Attendance Review Board Referral
New BP 5113	Absences and Excuses
New AR 5113	Absences and Excuses
New BP 5113.1	Truancy
Revised AR 5113.1	Truancy

The new and revised Board Policies on attendance will be brought back for a third reading with required revisions regarding 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade attendance.

**H. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

Member Ryan, referring to a report on CHDPs, would like to know why we have a high percentage of waivers.

President El-Hajj shared a request from CASBO for Board support regarding SB 2. There is a ballot initiative to appeal the law. This item should be put on the agenda to determine Board support.

Dr. Johnson spoke about the lawsuit by CMH for AB2726 costs. Our District would spend approximately \$136,000 for students we are currently serving. Member Ryan shared that this may provide an opportunity to get the State to provide funds to the District to offer these services and return some of the decision making to the districts.

Member Burns shared that he would like to review the Board By-Laws. Member McIntosh will meet with Member Burns to review the By-laws to see if updates are needed.

President El-Hajj reported that a City joint meeting has been scheduled and asked for agenda topics. A suggestion for an agenda topic was: Sheriff support in curtailing student marijuana use (drugs). President El-Hajj, Vice President Abel, and Member McIntosh will review the previous agenda and topics will be discussed on August 3<sup>rd</sup> for additions to the agenda.

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

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

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
2. Conference with Labor Negotiator  
*Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Director, Human Resources*  
*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association (STA)*  
*California School Employees Association (CSEA)*

3. Student Discipline Matters
4. Conference with Real Property Negotiators  
*Location: Renzulli Site and Santee School*  
*Agency Negotiator: Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent*
5. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
*Superintendent*

The Board entered closed session at 10:25 p.m.

**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT**

The Board reconvened to public session at 12:30 a.m. No action was reported. The July 20, 2004, regular meeting adjourned at 12:30 a.m.

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Dustin Burns, Clerk

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Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D, Secretary