

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA
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REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES

September 21, 2004

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on September 21, 2004, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Linda Perry.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Louis Heystek
Mr. Ken Pon
Mr. T. W. "Rick" Richards
Ms. Kimberly Wilson (arrived at 6:21 p.m.)
Mrs. Pauline Cutter, Clerk
Mr. Gary Thompson, Vice President
Ms. Linda Perry, President

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Leon Glaster, Assistant Superintendent
Michael Martinez, Assistant Superintendent
Henrietta Sakamaki, Assistant Superintendent
Linda Pollard, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

There were no public comments concerning items on the closed session agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:04 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Superintendent; Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal Release; Conference with Labor Negotiator; and Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, and 54956.9. The closed session was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:08 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Harold Kitzmann. President Perry said the Board had been in closed session and on a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Board approved to accept the settlement agreement with Zurich Insurance by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Perry made a personal addition to the agenda to honor Harold Kitzmann, for all of the work that he has done at San Leandro High School.

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board unanimously approved the agenda for the regular meeting of September 21, 2004 as amended.

REPORTS Student Representatives' Reports – San Leandro High School students representative, Sharon Ma, updated the Board on student activities including picture day for the yearbook and I.D.s, class boards have begun their regular meetings; Spirit Week theme for this year is “Vacation Destinations”; Homecoming is November 12; Equity is the focus for the first PCT day; Back-To-School Night is Sept.30; United Parents are sponsoring PSAT seminars; and Fall sports have begun including girls’ golf, tennis and volleyball; football, and cross-country.

Recreation and Parks Commission Report – Representative Dean Koenig shared three things: Capitol improvements have been completed/or close to completion at McCarthy, Cherry Grove, and Halcyon Parks. Improvements will soon begin at Bonaire and Memorial Parks; the Fall Activities Guide with an emphasis on health and wellness has been sent out. In a response to the lack of activity and poor nutrition of our kids today, the department has decided to use the recreation opportunities and the snacks served at City-sponsored events to promote health and wellness, and will soon be speaking to the schools about participating in this program; he updated the Board on the proposed joint use project at Bancroft Middle School and said the commission continues to feel that this a project that would not only benefit students, but be an improvement to the neighborhood. There are still issues to be addressed but they are confident that we can come to an agreement and make it work.

Mr. Heystek thanked Mr. Koenig for the health and wellness attention. He would like to know from our Food Services department what the District is doing to promote healthy meals.

Ms. Perry referred that to the Superintendent to set up a presentation from Food Services to the Board and to keep the Commission informed.

On behalf of the Board and the Superintendent, Ms. Perry presented Harold Kitzmann with an "Extra Mile" service award. In addition to picking up trash around the high school and the neighborhood every morning, he presents Perfect Attendance Awards for the Optimist Club to students at graduation. Ms. Perry added that the Board wants to recognize citizens who put in an extra effort to help our school community.

Mr. Kitzmann appreciated being honored but added that this is his neighborhood too and community services is the "rent you pay" for the privilege of living in that community. We all have to contribute something to the betterment of our community.

PUBLIC HEARING

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Thompson, the Board opened the public hearing regarding Notification of Compliance and Statement of Assurance for the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program for the 2004/2005 school year by a 7-0 vote.

No comments were received from the audience.

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Cutter, the Board closed the public hearing by a 7-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bancroft students in attendance and those who had to leave early addressed the Board on the Bancroft Middle School field project.

- Bancroft students D’Juan Woolridge and Catatrina McCormick, and Teaching Vice Principal, Ed Shapiro urged the Board to go forward with the Bancroft Middle School field project. Mr. Shapiro also invited the Board and District staff to a tribute to the late Vice-Principal at Bancroft, Bob Williams, on October 20 at 3:30 at the school. He said there will be a planning meeting next Monday at Bancroft if anyone would like to take a more active roll in the planning.
- Don Biladeau said we need to work with the union to get these issues addressed. As a maintenance worker, he feels that the current facility is the best its ever been and there is no need to proceed with this project at this time.

- Billy Campbell agreed that there are contract issues, and as of yet the union has not seen the proposed agreement or had any input as promised.

Ms. Lim said that this item would be on the Joint Operations Support Committee (JOSC) agenda tomorrow and the union will have an opportunity to hear this information then.

Ms Perry added that when this item comes up later in the evening she will address some communication that the Board has had with some of the neighbors on San Jose St.

PRESENTATIONS

- * Laura Leventer, Coordinator of Assessment & Instructional Support presented the disaggregated 2004 STAR and Academic Yearly Progress (AYP) results. Laura began by saying that the information presented is a compilation of two different presentations that were already shared with District principals and staff.

The presentation included explanations of the different portions of the test: CAT 6 (formally SAT9) which is a nationally normed test, CST (California Standards test) and the CAPA, an alternate version of the CST, for those students (Special Ed) who are low enough to be considered to take this test, common data interpretation errors, and what we can conclude from the results.

Ms. Leventer said that there are five different levels on CST: far below basic, below basic, basic, proficient, and advanced with the goal that all students to be proficient or advanced. She noted that there seems to be a significant drop in 8th grade scores in English/Language Arts (ELA). In researching this Ms. Leventer discovered that there is also a drop in the State and County, but not as significant, so we need to look at our curriculum to see if there is something that could be causing this.

Math is different because after the seventh grade, students are taking a test based on what courses they are taking and not every student is in the same Math course after that grade. In Ms. Leventer's opinion, and based on the numbers and trends, the timing of standardized testing does not match the Block scheduling. If students take a Math class in the fall they do not do as well because it's a long time till the test comes around in the spring; students taking the entire course in the spring are twice as far from being done as others students because they going at a double pace.

Ms. Leventer reviewed the AYP and API results. She said the good news is that we do not have any program improvement schools by the federal measurement system; and all schools met API minimum or growth, graduation rate (where applicable), and Participation Rate (except San

Leandro High School, where it is so hard to get that 95%). She did warn us that Annual Measurable Objects (AMOs) expectations for next year are increasing, so this is the right time for the District to be looking at our programs and making sure that we are having consistent implementation.

Debbie Wong, Director of Curriculum shared the steps and the ongoing work that the District will be doing particularly for our sub groups: Math for African –American, Hispanic, English Learners, and ELA for English Learners. She said the District has begun building a foundation of teacher resources such as curriculum guides, new standards-based adoptions materials, courses of study, has built teacher leadership in our facilitators and coaching models, there's a focused effort on writing, and using the data to help our District's and schools' plan on what we are going to do about student achievement in the future, and the District has a plan of action in place that is embedded in the LEAP Strategic Plan.

The umbrella of work is the "Equity Lens". We are doing a concerted effort around districtwide equity training that includes a framework that will raise the adult consciences in order to raise student achievement for all students. We feel that equity training, along with building the standards-based instructional system, is the vehicle to increase student achievement.

We have literacy facilitators whose focus is reading, new Title I Literacy Specialists who will be coaching reading at the Title I schools; Math facilitators, and implementation of the new REAP grant. Ms. Wong said that we will be making an effort to lead and support standards-based materials, and by closing the circle around the standards based system, provide clarity for teachers and parents.

Henrietta Sakamaki shared the District's role in this process. She said that students will not improve unless everyone (students and teachers) work together and have the support of the District. In order to have standards-based accountability, the administrators agreed to the "Administrators' Common Agreements" which centers around closing the achievement gap by

- Having direct conversation to help teachers address specific needs or individual students,
- Calibrate student work – "what is good enough?" – Develop common agreements
- Deeply believe first in myself and then for others that "all students can learn" – teachers take responsibility for learning
- Learn what differentiated instruction is to help teachers
- Hold teachers accountable for providing students with the opportunity to learn the standards

The Board thanked the team for all of their hard work.

Ms. Wilson said that she has been talking to new teachers in our District who are excited about the standards-based curriculum; they feel supported by the District, and can receive direction if they are not sure how to implement. In response to Ms. Wilson's concern, Ms. Sakamaki said that Ms. Lasher, Director of Special Ed, would begin working on a plan to address with Sp Ed resource teachers. Ms. Wilson asked about the "dip" in the 5th grade students and where it might be coming from. It was Ms. Leventer's guess that 5th grade teachers indicated that if the students don't know 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade standards how can could they teacher 5th grade standards. The teachers were focusing on getting the students caught up, rather than teaching the current level and building in the previous years.

Ms. Perry said that Special Ed makes up roughly 10% of our population and understands that the results are included with all numbers that were presented. Ms. Leventer said that the District is looking at the data, trying to break it up and making sure that we are properly marking those students with disabilities.

In order to understanding the diversity of our population, Ms. Perry would like to see numbers in each subgroup, not just the perentages. She applauded the amount of work the Ed. Services has done and added that the English language coaches and facilitators are the key. The course level alike teams described makes the District stronger between school sites where "best practices" can be shared. Ms. Perry wanted to know if countywide information was based on percentages per districts or was it an overall average of the data aggregated. Ms. Leventer said it was from all the data aggregated and it's the information that you can find on the website.

Mr. Thompson commended them for providing such extensive information. In looking at the dips between the transitional grades levels (5th to 6th and 8th to 9th), he wanted to know if there were any target interventions in place for those specific grades because he sees that is where behavioral and academic issues occur. Ms. Wong said that it is part of the District's LEAP plan is to look at transitional grades. Some training at the middle school level has begun around "bullying" with a support provider and trainer, and we will also be looking at discipline and truancy data.

Mrs. Cutter cautioned that in trying to the close the gap, do not lower the top. The focus needs to continue to bring everyone up to a certain level, opposed to narrowing the gap. In the area of math she was concerned on how we could get great results in one test and not in another. Ms. Leventer explained that the high school exam is a minimum proficiency test and it's not looking at higher level courses such as algebra and geometry.

Ms. Sakamaki added that the District is looking at a grant for the high school through the Johnson Foundation by offering a summer program for

entering 8th graders, and providing tutoring and assistance for those students who have failed, and juniors who have failed the California exit exam.

Mr. Pon focused on two of the Administrators' Common Agreements: "Deeply believe first in myself and then for others that "all students can learn – teachers take responsibility for learning", and "Hold teachers accountable for providing students with the opportunity to learn the standards". Mr. Pon was concerned that there were teachers who did not believe that "all students could learn", and how we can "hold teachers accountable". Ms. Leventer said the District was developing a new evaluation form that focuses on the standards. Teachers will be held accountable based on the teaching profession standards, which are the strongest to help principals, to make sure that they are assisting teachers in having those high expectations. She added that because everyone comes from different backgrounds, places, and has parents with different beliefs, teachers think they are helping the students by not raising the standards as high. Ms. Sakamaki added that for the principals to be sure that teachers are held accountable, they need to be in the differentiated instruction and other training so they can reach all the students.

Ms. Wilson said that she understood the Boards' concern about teachers doing their own thing, but she appreciated the District being proactive by focusing on the equity lens. In reference to the API indicator weights, she was not quite sure how the CAPA data was put together. Ms. Leventer said that there are only around 40 students in the District who are taking the CAPA and when they do, they are given a score in five different ranges like those students taking the CST, and those scores are included in the results for their grade level and calculated in the CST results. CST results are then disaggregated.

Mr. Heystek thanked them for all the thorough information presented. He asked about what we are doing in terms of retaining those teachers who have received all this equity and diversity training. Ms. Leventer said that through BSTA which is our beginning teachers' support system, making sure that we have good teachers to be support providers who will assist them, support from the principal and District, and making an effort to keep our teachers with a pay schedule that reflects that.

Ms. Perry appreciated the presentation and giving us a focus. The Board looks forward to having future presentations and looking at what the District is doing.

- * Leon Glaster, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, updated the Board on the Reconciliation of the Measure A Bond including a summary of the Bond projects from 1997-2004.

* Mr. Glaster explained that the bond study identified about \$200 million in needed repairs. The 1997 Measure A Bond was for \$53.8 million. An additional \$34 million was procured from the state giving the District approximately \$88 million in bond project funds. The projected completion date was 2009, but we are five years ahead of schedule with a current completion date of 2005. Projects included:

- Madison Elementary School renovation;
- Playground improvement project for all elementary schools;
- Modular classroom student growth project;
- Exterior school building painting;
- Seismic retrofit project at three school sites;
- San Leandro High School New Science Wing, shop renovation, and digital technology projects;
- Monroe Elementary School roof repair;
- School Kitchen Renovation at Bancroft, Muir and San Leandro High
- Roosevelt heating & ventilation repair;
- Muir skylight projects;
- Bancroft shop and science renovation;
- Muir new instructional wing;
- New Jefferson Elementary School Project and
- San Leandro High School Improvement project (asphalting and roofing).

He recapped the Health & Safety Retrofit Projects where we received state matching funds at nine school sites.

Mr. Glaster gave an overview of the expenditure and revenue reconciliation of the Bond where detailed information was shared with the Finance Committee. Total expenditures and adjustments are \$103,957.391; Total Revenue & Adjustment were \$104,544,200 with a total estimated fund balance of \$636,809 (noting that expenditures & revenues include \$14 million in COP gap pass-thru funding). All the reconciliation has been completed and he thanked his staff for all the hard work in balancing these numbers. Mr. Glaster concluded by saying that the important thing to remember is that the District did what we said we were going to do. He wanted the community to know that this Board stands behind their commitments.

Ms. Perry said the Board appreciates receiving good news. She thanked Mr. Glaster for his leadership in aggressively going after Proposition 55 which are included in that ending balance, and for thinking outside the box. She also thanked him for the history of Measure A and the Business Department for their hard work to see that everything was reconciled.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Billy Campbell addressed the Board regarding the two Beautification Days at San Leandro High and custodial cutbacks.

Don Biladeau addressed the Board on facility reports, the costs of change orders; and the delay of the opening of the New Jefferson Elementary School

Mr. Heystek asked to be excused.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Cutter noted communications received from eighteen residents of San Jose Street and Debra Blondheim regarding the Bancroft Field Project; and Lisa Long regarding the Special Education Preschool at Madison.

Mr. Pon asked that the email from Debra Blondheim be forwarded to all the Board members.

- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Chris Lim announced that the enrollment was about 210 over the projected enrollment, all the changes have been made to maximize the class sizes at the school sites, and the District has hired two elementary teachers and 1.2 middle school teachers. She updated the Board on the cheerleading scandal from last fall. Mr. Glaster completed the investigation, worked with the police, and the District’s risk management firm, and the District received a check today for \$34,815; we will be able to reimburse the parents for what was lost. The Teacher of the Year Awards Ceremony will be Oct. 6 at 6:00 p.m. at Chabot College and Dale Lew from Jefferson is in the running. Ms. Lim mentioned that she had received a copy of the Tribune with the article, “UC Continues to Tinker with GPA Plan” on whether or not we should consider raising the minimum grade-point average required for admission from a 2.8 to a 3.1, and noted that Leandro High School Principal Amy Furtado, was quoted saying, “What’s complicated about it is that there’s so much more to a child than his GPA and so much more that kids have to offer than their GPA”. Ms. Lim said she thought it was a great quote and was very proud of Amy.

- 6) Board Committee Reports

- Facilities/Technology – Ms. Cutter said the committee met on Sept. 10 and discussed five items: (1) Adult Education facility – the Muir staff looked at the facility plan and does not want to share the parking, so the parking area will be near Cherry Grove; (2) General Obligation Bond Committee – asked staff to come back to the next meeting with information on how to form a committee, and what to do to have things in place to proceed with a bond, which we will report back to the Board with suggestions; (3) Security Update on cameras at the high school;

(4) Update on Bancroft Middle School Field Joint Use Project – an update will be presented later tonight; and (5) Prequalification for Contractors – we have started gathering information to have a plan in place.

- Finance – Mr. Thompson reported that the committee met on September 14 and discussed four items, two were informational presentations on potential employee benefits, (1) a representative from Tax Deferred Services who are contracted by the California School Board Association to administer employee tax shelter annuities such as 457 plans; and (2) Katema Slocuma, Mr. Glaster’s Administrative Assistant, as well as the former District Employee Benefit Coordinator, provided the committee with information on Pre-Paid legal services. Both of the items will be coming to the full Board for discussion on October 5. The committee also discussed the update on the Bond reconciliation process which was shared tonight and the extension of the year-end closing to the October 19 Board meeting because there are some categoricals from prior years that need to be reviewed and included into this closing. He said that the Alameda County Office of Education supports extending the closing. We will be discussing this at the next Finance meeting on October 12.

7) Board Representatives’ Reports

- Alameda County School Boards Assn. - Ms. Perry reported that they met last Thursday with a panel discussion on the California Performance Review (CPR); Mr. Pon attended along with representatives from the community college level, CSBA, and ACSA. The comment period ends Sept. 30. CSBA has an update on the website. There is concern about the structure, where this is leading and what the Governor intends to do with it. Mr. Pon added that besides being overwhelmed by the changes and that it was a very long report (2500 pages), one thing that stuck in his mind was that half of the savings in education (approximately \$2.5 billion) was going to come from moving the kindergarten age from Dec. 2 to Sept 1. which would delay the entry of kids into kindergarten. He felt that this was not really a savings because those kids would be coming into the system anyway. Ms. Perry said that last year the focus was the master plan, this year it’s the CPR. The next meeting will be the “Teacher of the Year” event on October 6 at Chabot College.
- Superintendent’s Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee – Mr. Heystek reported that the Board created this committee to look at other formats for the evaluation document for the superintendent reflecting the goals submitted to the Board and public so that our process would reflect

that structure and those goals. The committee met on September 9 to talk about the process of evaluating the superintendent, based on goals submitted before September 1, the gaps, the mismatch in terms of goals and evaluation, and the kind of format that would assist us in improving the process. Mr. Richards and Ms. Wilson will be bringing back examples from other districts, and Mr. Heystek would be looking at what CSBA had to offer. The next meeting will be October 12, and because two of the members are on the Finance Committee (which is also scheduled to meet on Oct. 12), he would like to have back to back meetings scheduled.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Richards requested that Consent Item 4.3-C, Intra-Budget Transfers, be removed for a question and clarification.

Ms. Perry said that minor clerical corrections will be made on the minutes of September 8, 2004.

General Services

1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – September 8, 2004

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

2.2-C Renewal of Student Teaching Agreements

Educational Services

3.1-C Acceptance of Donations
Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-C Ratification of Payroll – August 2004

4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants

On a motion made by Mr. Heystek and seconded by Mrs. Perry, the Board approved the remaining consent items by a 7-0 vote.

4.3-C Intra-Budget Transfers

Mr. Richards had a question regarding the last two items on the first transfer order where the last two dollar amounts in the general fund

are being transferred from one account to the same account

This item was pulled to the October 5, 2004 meeting, when Mr. Glaster would come back with the explanation.

ACTION ITEMS

Human Resources

2.1-A San Leandro Teachers' Association Initial Proposal

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the receipt of the San Leandro Teachers' Association initial proposal to the San Leandro Unified School District by a 7-0 vote.

2-2-A San Leandro Unified School District's Initial Proposal

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Cutter, the Board approved the receipt of the San Leandro Unified School District's initial proposal to the San Leandro Teachers' Association by a 7-0 vote.

Educational Services

3.1-A Resolution #04-44 for Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program for 2004/2005

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Heystek, the Board adopted Resolution #04-44 for Textbook Instructional Materials Incentive Program for 2004/2005 by a 7-0 vote.

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-A Change Order #10 – Elementary Schools Modernization

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved Change Order #10 for Arntz Builders for the Elementary Schools Modernization Project; Bid Package #03-05 by a 7-0 vote

4.2-A Change Order #11 – Bancroft and Muir Middle Schools Modernization

On a motion made by Mr. Heystek and seconded by Mr. Richards,

the Board approved Change Order #11 for Arntz Builders for Bancroft and Muir Middle Schools Modernization Project; Bid Package #03-04 by 7-0 vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

General Services

1.1-I AR 5117.1 Inter-District Transfers

The Board received for information the revised AR 5117.1, Inter-District Attendance Permits as presented at the September 8, 2004 Board meeting.

Mr. Heystek asked what the rationale was regarding the proposed change from “half-time employee to full-time”, and whether employees not in our District had been denied permits. Ms. Sakamaki explained that the reason for this change was because of space availability. Mr. Heystek asked how many employees this would effect particularly with the issue of keeping quality employees. Ms. Sakamaki said that she would research this and report back to the Board at the October 5 meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 9:18 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

Business, Operations and Facilities

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Michael Gregory, Bancroft Dad’s Club President updated the Board on tonight’s’ Estudillo Homeowners Association meeting regarding the Bancroft Middle School field project. He said that Ken Richards from the City was in attendance and gave a very “neutral” presentation of what is being proposed. Mr. Gregory also recognized Micki Cronin, from the City, and how compassionately she handled the neighbors.
- Tracy Ellis, Vice President of the Homeowners Association added that she felt conceptually everyone agrees that they want this to happen and that it is a positive thing. However, we really need to make sure that the neighbors are being heard, and that they see things in writing. She personally came to the Board meeting to urge the Board to continue the momentum, go for the grant application, and do their best to hopefully make this happen.

4.1-I

Bancroft Middle School Field Project

Ms. Perry said that there was a community meeting last week and some of the issues that will be presented were brought up at that meeting.

Leon Glaster, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, shared information regarding the proposed scope of the Bancroft Middle School Field Project and addressed issues that have been raised by the school community. Specific concerns were security lights, the height of the lights, and the impact of traffic.

Mr. Glaster said that the experts are saying that security lights deter crime, so the District is looking to get feedback from the community on the most effective and friendly security lights to be installed so that they do not impose a hardship on the neighbors. A traffic study is being completed as part of the CEQA process by David Powers and Associates, which needs to be completed before an application is submitted. The basis of the study is traffic patterns generated by prior use and projected use. Results of the study will be submitted to the City Engineering and Planning Department and be available to the public.

The neighbors were also concerned about litter pick-up on weekends and for the District in general. He said that the District is committed to developing maintenance strategies to address the weekend litter issue including litter control guidelines for organizations that use our fields through the permit usage process and to control the issuing of permits for weekend use. If the Bancroft joint use project goes through, the City will issue permits for youth groups only, and the District will have first use of the field during the 10-month period that the school is in session so that most activities will be school related. He said that they will definitely look at usage patterns to be sure that our neighbors are served. He added that our focus in being a "good neighbor." It's very important that we are sensitive to what we do and how it impacts the neighbors.

The frequency of police patrols and the impact on the value of housing was also discussed. The District did contact a local developer and he indicated that street, parks, and field improvements have a positive impact on the value of homes.

Ms. Perry referred to an email received from Debra Blondheim. Ms. Perry said that she did contact her reiterating the Board's offer to set up a meeting exclusively with the San Jose Street neighbors to listen to their concerns. Ms. Blondheim indicated that she would bring it

up again with her neighbors at the Estudillo Homeowners meeting tonight. Ms. Perry will let the Board know what happens.

Mr. Heystek said he appreciated the energy and enthusiasm of Bancroft Dad's Club President Michael Gregory, Leon Glaster and all other people involved in trying to get the City and the District to do something positive for the community. He said that he thought this was (as our late colleague, Fred Collins would say) a "NIMBY" (not in my back yard) issue. He is very torn not only about the neighbors' concerns but also the District's history on being a "good neighbor". There is a lot of mistrust on how the District has handled other issues in the past i.e. the high school, and the Thomas Avenue gate. We have not seen a schematic design of the project from the City or a presentation on the formalities of these projects, only updates from meetings that have happened. He agreed with Mrs. Cutter on feeling disengaged from this process, City having charettes, and having the community come out when the Board has not really decided on what use we want for this property. He asked that with the success of the joint effort with the Muir soccer field, had we considered the full use of the Muir soccer field and what we are doing with our existing resources before we decided on another soccer field? He wants to do something for the community but is not sure if the District can maintain the quality of life and ensure that the neighbors live peacefully next to the field.

Mr. Pon said that he likes this project, wants to see it go forward and also have the neighbors agreeable to how it operates. There are two issues: the District being a "good neighbor", and getting a better field. He would like to see us step up the effort to pick up the trash. This has been an ongoing issue that will be there whether or not we improve the field. He does not see a down side to this project. Field improvements will help the kids who attend Bancroft including a formal track which also gives the community a place to go after school. He said plans to relocate the basketball courts and softball field away from the fence (where people accumulate) to the Bancroft Ave. side will decrease the noise level. In regards to the lighting, Mr. Pon thought that a member of the public wanted security light. Mr. Pon thought that if the District did not already have lighting, and it was not required, maybe lighting would not be needed. He would like to see a meeting between the neighbors, without a presentation, and maybe they will see that it's better for the kids, scaled for the kids, and adults who use it will not like because it is not built for them. He thinks this project will be positive endeavor for the neighborhood and particularly for those along the fence.

Mr. Richards agreed that the field needs to be renovated and added that as a Board member, he is hearing more about this project

tonight, other than what he has read about it in the newspaper. He also has not seen a design. He agreed that the Board should have been involved in this process from the beginning. He feels some issues such as lighting can be mitigated, however not knowing what has been done and what has been looked at, he can't say what we should do as a Board.

Mrs. Cutter said it's a disappointed in the process, not the project. She would like to see certain things defined in the agreement including utilities usage; parking (she does not want people parking on the blacktop); a 10-month program; cannot be used during summer school; and defining terms of maintaining the lawn to certain standards. She says this is wonderful opportunity; however we need to involve our unions and be proactive so when the time comes in November to vote for it we know what we are voting for. She also would like "drafts" of the agreements dated so she knows which is the most current.

Mr. Thompson agreed that the process needs to be improved, particularly around information; however, he feels that this is a wonderful opportunity. The community has been asking the school board and City to come together. We have had problems in the past, but we need to be forward thinking and address these issues with the City. He is very optimistic that we can move forward. He heard President Perry say that we made an overture to the community members who have concerns, and he added that we need to continue to make that overture, and we need to be continuous as Board members to ask these critical questions. He trusts that staff will follow up on our comments because he sees the District moving forward. If we do not move forward, we are missing a wonderful opportunity not only for our community but for our children. It's about improving the holistic education of our young people in our community and I think this project demonstrates that. We don't need a lot of testimony to test the fact that improved overall environment outside and inside will improve academics as well as the child's well being. Mr. Thompson said that he strongly supports moving forward, getting those answers that we need, and making sure our process is clear to all of us.

Ms. Perry felt, and the Board concurred, that the process has been flawed from the first meeting. The City conducted and went right into charettes without taking the concerns of the neighborhood into consideration, without discussing the educational and false expectation and panic in the community that this was going to be a "sports complex" (as reported in the San Leandro Times). This was not the intent of the Bancroft Dads' Club. The Board needs to have the actual activities that Bancroft needs and how it would be used in

the new plan. She hopes that at the meeting Tuesday night we will see what is really being discussed and being put into the plan. It was the consensus of the Board to move ahead with the grant, and collect the information needed from both sides (City and District) to have the grant application process complete i.e. what are the basic requirements, can things be phased, concerns about the unions, MOU language, can it be an "in concept" MOU with issue areas to be determined if we receive funding from the grant.

In answer to Mrs. Cutter regarding what type of grant, Ms. Perry understood that it was a joint application grant; however this is one of those grants where the school district could apply as being the lead agency. Ms. Perry continued that the concerns she was hearing from the neighbors were regarding adult sports leagues, enforcement; and the orientation of softball field. She is hoping that information regarding the Washington Manor Park project will be available at the meeting on Tuesday.

Mr. Heystek was wondering if usage of the fields (other than organized groups) could be restricted to a certain age group. Ms. Perry said that staff needs to answer that regarding what kind of enforcement mechanisms are in place. He said he would like to see enhancements, but was concerned about the effect on what has already been done to the current field.

Mr. Pon would like to see the concept of a cut-out area, similar to the San Leandro High School drop off/pick-up area discussed as a way to alleviate some of the parking and traffic issues.

In answer to Mr. Thompson question regarding the grant process, Ms. Perry said that this is a very competitive grant process.

Superintendent Lim said that each of you brought up some legitimate concerns and appreciated Ms. Perry capsulizing on how these issues got out of hand. She is very concerned about attending the City meeting on Tuesday and not knowing what we are doing. Thus, she requested that staff get a copy of the grant, MOU, timeline, design and basic information to the Board before the Sept. 28 joint meeting. She apologized for putting the Board in a very precarious position where there's uneven knowledge among our Board, as an example, the Facilities Committee knows a little more, and people who have attended the community meetings had received the responses, leaving others confused. She added that if the Board had any questions, to please feel free to call.

Mr. Heystek wanted to know what the outcome was for the joint meeting for Sept. 28 meeting and the process up to the November 5

deadline.

Ms. Lim said she understands that the joint committee must authorize “in concept” the MOU (approve it in principle) on Tuesday, and then each entity will authorize the approval of the grant separately. It will be agendized for the school board sometime in October.

4.2-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$155,341.17 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Wilson said that Thursday is Back-to-School night for the elementary schools. She will be attending the Back-to-School night at Monroe, McKinley and Washington Elementary schools.

Ms. Perry said that Board member compensation for meetings needs to be a publicly discussed item. She asked for Board consensus on how to address this in two ways: (1) a desire to waive the policy; (2) a desire to change the current policy.

There was some confusion on what “waive the policy” meant. Ms. Wilson wondered if it would be a temporary hiatus or permanently. Ms. Perry explained that she is talking about “waiving the policy” as temporary, looking back on the issues that have been brought up. Mr. Richards asked if Ms. Perry was proposing putting a hold on the existing policy and not enforcing the existing policy until a new policy was written. Ms. Perry said she was asking if there is a desire to “waive the policy”. Mr. Richards said that it was his desire to “waive” the existing policy only until we revise and approve a new policy.

Ms. Perry said that was why she was asking in two parts. (1) was there a desire to “waive the policy”, either retroactively or as an interim, or (2) was there a desire to “change the policy” (both would be decided under a discussion). This polling is for the purpose of agendizing for discussion, if there is a desire to do either one.

Ms. Wilson asked if Ms. Perry was asking for a motion. Ms. Perry said that she was polling the Board for consensus.

Ms. Perry noted that two (2) Board members supported “waiving the policy”, and five (5) members supported “changing the policy”. It was the consensus of the Board to agendaize for discussion “changing the policy” at the October 5 Board meeting. Ms. Perry said that she would refer this to the Policy Committee for discussion at their Sept. 27 meeting and bring it to the full Board on October 5.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

- Regular Meeting – October 5, 2004
- Regular Meeting – October 19, 2004
- Regular Meeting – November 16, 2004
- Regular Meeting – November 30, 2004
- Regular Meeting – December 7, 2004
- Regular Meeting – December 14, 2004
- Regular Meeting – January 11, 2005
- Regular Meeting – January 25, 2005
- Regular Meeting – February 1, 2005
- Regular Meeting – February 16, 2005
- Regular Meeting – March 1, 2005
- Regular Meeting – March 15, 2005
- Regular Meeting – April 5, 2005
- Regular Meeting – April 19, 2005
- Regular Meeting – May 3, 2005
- Regular Meeting – May 17, 2005
- Regular Meeting – June 7, 2005
- Regular Meeting – June 21, 2005

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:17 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Cutter, Clerk