

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

April 5, 2005

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on January 12, 2005, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Pauline Cutter.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Stephen Cassidy  
Mrs. Lisa Hague  
Mr. Louis Heystek  
Ms. Linda Perry  
Mr. Ray Davis, Clerk  
Mr. T.W. "Rick" Richards, Vice President  
Mrs. Pauline Cutter, President

**DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT**

Christine Lim, Superintendent  
Leon Glaster, 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 6:02 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Students Expulsions; Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release; Conference with Labor Negotiator; Public Employee Appointment – Title: Teaching Vice Principals at Muir Middle School and Bancroft Middle School; Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – 2 cases pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918(c); and Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, and 54956.9. The closed session was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:20 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Cutter said the Board had been in closed and took the following action:

- On a motion by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board appointed Jaliza Eagles as the Teaching Vice Principal at Bancroft Middle School (.6 administration, .4 teacher) for the 2005/2006 school year by a 7-0 vote.
- On a motion by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board appointed Dann Bearson as the Teaching Vice Principal at Muir Middle School (.8 administration, .2 teacher) for the 2005/2006 school year by a 7-0 vote.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Davis requested that the following Action Items 2.1-A; 3.1-A; 3.2-A; 3.3-A; 3.4-A; 3.5-A; 3.6-A; 4.1-A and Conference Items 4.2-CF; 4.3-CF; 4.4-CF; 4.5-CF; and 4.6-CF be moved to the Consent Calendar because of the routine nature of these items.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the agenda as amended for the regular meeting of April 5, 2005 by a 7-0 vote.

Mr. Cassidy requested that expulsions items be included on the Consent Calendar.

**REPORTS** Student Representatives' Reports – San Leandro High School representative Sharon Ma updated the Board on the following activities: STAR testing; spring sports; Junior Prom, April 8; the Spring Musical “Bat Boy” begins next week with the Gala on April 15 at 6:30 p.m.; senior class Flea Market is April 16 at the high school; and a senior class dinner is scheduled for April 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Olive Garden.

President Cutter asked Sharon to check with the principal regarding the day and time of the “Sober Graduation Assembly” for seniors, presented by the police department.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- \* Ruta Krusa, Coordinator of Curriculum & Instruction provided an overview on the development of the District’s Five-Year Visual and Performing Arts Plan.

She explained that as part of the Model Arts Program (MAP) Network and the Alameda County Alliance, the District formed a District Arts Team, which developed a Board Resolution for Visual and Performing Arts (spring 2004) and a 5-year Visual and Performing Arts Plan for the District to guide arts education in San Leandro in the future by providing a sequential, equitable development of visual and performing arts continuum; enabling San Leandro Unified to apply for arts grants in the future, and making Visual and Performing Arts a viable content area in the District.

Ms. Krusa said that the plan was based on the nine components of *Elements of a Model Arts Education*, developed and published by the California Department of Education and would be reviewed annually and adjusted as needs, funding and circumstances change. In Year One the District has purchased visual and performing arts frameworks for the schools, provided staff development on standards; articulation within departments across grade levels and completed the Plan.

Mr. Heystek hoped that the District was really invested in the plan and not just being successful obtaining grants. Ms. Krusa said that receiving grant funding was just one of the benefits of having a plan but that funding was not the primary source and that the committee wanted to see the District move ahead in terms of curriculum, and offerings for the students to later include theatre and dance.

Mrs. Hague was interested in Year Two of the plan. Ms. Krusa said that the teachers were very aware of the District's focus and had already begun examining and articulating the standards.

Ms. Perry added that Curriculum Committee also discussed equity issues in programs so that all school sites would have equitable access to learning and shared Mrs. Hague's concern that this was communicated to the sites as they develop class schedules for next year, look at resources, and how funds are going to be expended in the school plan. Ms. Perry would also like to see a list of potential partnerships and scholarships through the community developed and made available for those who wish to help.

The Board thanked Ms. Krusa for the encapsulating presentation of the District's hopes and dreams.

- \* Food Services Director, Aulani Cler, provided information on the history and updated the Board on the Food Services Department including the mission of food service in San Leandro... *"to provide a variety of nutritious meals with strong student acceptability, that support the health and wellness of students and aid in the learning process."* She shared comparison charts between the 2002/03 and 2003/04 school year in the areas of annual lunches/meals served per day and annual lunches served by monthly paid, reduced, and free

lunch program adding that breakfasts were served at all but two of the schools.

Ms. Cler explained that the state and federal government provide funding sources, and in 1945 the federal government introduced the National School Lunch Program, an entitlement program, to ensure that a child would get at least one full nutritious meal.

Ms. Cler said that because obesity is the number one health problem for children, Senate Bill 19 prohibiting the sale of sodas on the elementary and middle school campuses and placing nutritional standards on foods sold to students and Senate Bill 677 Childhood Obesity Prevention Act which sets standards for all beverage sold on elementary and middle school campuses were recently implemented and her department analyzes all meals to meet federal guidelines, all food items are baked not fried, fresh fruit and vegetables, non fat and 1% milk are offered daily with a salad bar at the middle and high schools.

Ms. Cler said that the Wellness Task Force Committee (composed of principals, teachers, nurses, parents, Trustee Perry, and an Alameda County Public Health employee) was working on a wellness policy to bring to the Board focusing on nutrition, curriculum, and physical education. Their first meeting will be April 19, 2005.

Mr. Cassidy asked that Board members be informed and considered to be part of the committee when openings become available, and requested a copy of Ms. Cler's presentation electronically so he could forward it on to interested people.

Mr. Heystek would be interested in having a District discussion regarding the coke contract once it expires, and the packaging of products in terms of recyclable etc. Mr. Heystek thanked Ms. Cler for her involvement with the upcoming San Leandro Collaborative Health & Wellness Fair scheduled sometime in September or October.

Mr. Davis encouraged the Wellness Task Force Committee to look at promoting students to walk and/or bike to school, not only as a health issue but as a safety issue. He reminded the Board of the Annual Walk to School, Bike to School Program that cities and school districts participate in the fall.

Mrs. Cutter would like to see the District encourage activity at the high school such as increasing the PE requirement, as many students do not walk to school.

Ms. Perry said she was happy to be part of this exciting journey the District was embarking on, and added that the Food Services Department has the

knowledge, cares about what they are serving to our students, and does an amazing job of looking at the nutritional value of each of those items served.

Board members appreciated the conscientious work that is being done by Food Services under Ms. Cler's leadership and Mr. Glaster announced that Ms. Cler was presently serving as president of the state Child Nutrition Program and thanked her for her extra curricular activity benefiting the District.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Billy Campbell thanked Mr. Martinez for addressing some personnel issues. He also addressed the board on salaries, not only for teachers, but for other District employees, and the importance of keeping the facilities clean.

## **REPORTS**

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Davis reported receipt of the following email correspondence: Evelyn Gonzalez regarding Roosevelt's Auction Program on April 16; Steve Craig, Ron and Linda Carey, Jane Ivy Jones, Laurie Appling, Ken Li, Sarah Del Grande, and Audrey Brown regarding teachers' salaries; Dan Martin, "Protest Arnold" at the Ritz, April 5; Sarah Wood, Special Day Class support; Gerald Shovlin, Letter to the Editor supporting parcel tax; Linda Sandsmark requesting an update on negotiations; Debbie and Jim Miller on quality teachers; John Chocholak in support of the metal shop; and Lance Gunnerson regarding Education Week column on Vocational Education.
- 2) Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Chris Lim reported:
  - The second issue of *Bridging Communication* had been distributed and thanked the staff at every site and District Office for submitting an article. She added that excerpts are published in her monthly article in the *S. L. Times* and the City newsletter that goes out twice a year;
  - Ms. Lim announced a "Media Event" scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on April 6 at Independent School in Castro Valley where representatives from the teachers' union, PTA, Castro Valley's Board of Education and Superintendents etc. present formal remarks and then disperse to the four corners of the room for regional conversations with representatives of their local press;
  - She attended her first WASC in Walnut Creek and found it to be an incredibly affirming process. She was also impressed with the staff's commitment to a culture of self-reflection and the high level of participation in the school from every stakeholder including the parents;
  - In response to an invitation from Alameda County Superintendent, Sheila Jordan per President Bush's declaration, she authorized the

district to fly the flag at half staff on April 6 in honor of Pope John Paul II.

- Ms. Lim announced that on Thursday, April 7, Richard Riordon, a state official from State Parks & Recreation, would be visiting Bancroft Middle School to look at the field plan as we are being considered for the grant. Mr. Glaster and Mr. Murphy, Facilities Director, will also be there to walk through the campus.

Mr. Cassidy requested any written updates from the McKinley School's principal and staff regarding their visit (which was reported in *Bridging Communications*.) to Belle Air Elementary in San Bruno to learn strategies to help close the achievement gap

### 3) Board Committee Reports

- Advocacy – Mr. Cassidy reported that the committee met on April 4 at the Wilson Elementary School library and had a very good turnout including Ellen Corbett, Councilmember Joyce Starosciak and a former School Resource Officer. The committee worked on the draft letter on behalf of the Superintendent to the City regarding the School Resource Officers (SROs) and would be presenting it at the next Board meeting, to be delivered to the City Council Finance Committee at their April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. Other items discussed included: (1) a draft resolution opposing President Bush's proposed cutback to vocation education to be brought to the Board on April 19; (2) community outreach on the Governor's Education budget requesting that the Superintendent come up with date in the beginning of May for a community workshop for "letter writing", come back to the Board for discussion and authorization on April 19 requesting that school sites publicize that effort in their school newsletters; (3) the role of Advocacy Committee and Board on any future local bond and parcel tax measures.

Ms. Perry would prefer the letter to the City Council regarding the SROs come from the Board of Education rather than the Superintendent.

Mr. Davis asked if there were computers available for the "letter writing" on the Governor's education budget. Mr. Cassidy said that hand written letters would be more persuasive.

It was the consensus that the letter to the City regarding the SROs come from the Board of Education and not the Superintendent.

- Communication Ad Hoc- Mr. Heystek reported that the committee (Mr. Cassidy and Ms. Perry) met on March 25 to discuss the charge, scope and priorities for a proposed standing Communications Committee and

was bringing a recommendation to the Board for consideration tonight.

- Curriculum – Mrs. Hague said the committee on March 21 and discussed the Visual and Performing Arts Five-Year Plan including equity issues between the two middle schools and how the agenda for all schools could be brought forward and would be presented to the Board tonight.
- Superintendent’s Evaluation Ad Hoc- Mr. Heystek reported that they met (Mr. Richards and Mrs. Hague) on March 29 and was bringing a recommendation to the Board on the Superintendent’s Evaluation Form tonight.

7) Board Representatives’ Reports

- Alameda County School Boards Assn. – Ms. Perry reported that they met on March 17 and the Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education provided information regarding Constitutional Amendment SCAX1, merit pay for teachers, and she would forward information received to the Board members. She said that on May 19 the program will focus on Proposition 98 rather than Board member recognition awards as previously announced. She said that they would honor student board members and elect officers at the next meeting, April 21.
- Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco Education – Ms. Perry attended the meeting on March 10 for Mrs. Cutter and rescheduling a gang prevention meeting; cuts in federal funding; and program options for next year were discussed. The next meeting will be May 12.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

General Services

1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 15, 2005

1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 17, 2005

1.3-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 21, 2005

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Educational Services

3.1-C Out-of-State Field Trip for John Muir’s Drama Club

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-C Intra-Budget Transfers

Human Resources

2.1-A Pre-School Teacher Job Description for the Even Start Family Literacy Program

Educational Services

3.1-A Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion of student E19-04/05

3.2-A Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion of Student E20-04/05

3.3-A Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion of Student E21-04/05

3.4-A Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion of Student E22-04/05

3.5-A Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion of Student E23-04/05

3.6 -A Recommendation from Director of Student Support Services of Student E25-03/04

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-A Revised Change Order #13 – Health & Safety Retrofit Modernization at Bancroft & Muir Middle Schools at Bancroft & Muir Middle Schools originally approved at the March 19, 2005 Board meeting.

4.2-CF Architect Contracts for Roosevelt and Madison Elementary Schools, and John Muir Middle School Proposition 55 Renovation Projects:

- VCN Architects – Roosevelt Elementary School
- Chong Partners – Madison Elementary School
- Jeffery Wong Architects – John Muir Middle School

4.3-CF Architect Contracts for Port of Oakland Noise Abatement Settlement:

- AEDIS Architects – John Muir Middle School and Wilson



- Elementary School
- MWM Architects – Monroe and Garfield Elementary Schools

4.4-CF Bancroft Middle School Proposition 55 Renovation Project and Beverly Prior Architects as the Design Professional of Records

4.5-CF McKinley Elementary School Proposition 55 Renovation Projects

4.6-CF Wilson Elementary School Proposition 55 Renovation Projects

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the consent items with the addition of the Action Items 2.1-A; 3.1-A; 3.2-A; 3.3-A; 3.4-A; 3.5-A; 3.6-A; 4.1-A and Conference Items 4.2-CF; 4.3-CF; 4.4-CF; 4.5-CF; and 4.6 CF because of the routine nature of the items by a 7-0 vote.

## **CONFERENCE ITEMS**

### General Services

1.1-CF Bond/Parcel Tax Election

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

- Whitney Walker, member of Friends of Washington, addressed the Board on the importance of improving the public schools so that upcoming parents of the District would support a bond/parcel tax.

The Board discussed and considered whether or not to proceed with a Bond and/or Parcel Tax election in 2006.

Mr. Heystek felt that in order to enhance revenue, begin building on our successes, and generate trust, it was time to proceed with either a bond and/or parcel tax. He saw the bond funding facilities and parcel tax funding programs and fiscal needs for the District and preferred supporting a bond at this time.

Mr. Richards was in favor at looking at timelines for both the bond and parcel tax because as we continue to improve the facilities, we need funding for other programs and fiscal needs.

Mr. Davis supported both but wanted to know what legal limits on expenditures of district funds could be used to explore both of these options before determining whether or not the District should

support one or both at the same time.

Mr. Cassidy had concerns on the long-term future. He supported planning for both a bond and parcel tax in 2006 with the understanding that Superintendent would draft a timeline and list of tasks for the Board to review at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Perry felt it was important to explore both (aiming for a June 2006 target date for a bond), adding that we are one of the few districts that didn't have a parcel tax in Alameda County.

Mrs. Hague said it was important to not only look at what we needed now but look at how our decisions regarding a bond/parcel tax would impact the viability of the District. She would like to see the District explore both, adding that timing was essential, however she was concerned about introducing anything too rapidly to the community and introducing both simultaneously. Mrs. Hague would like to see the District spend their time and energy wisely to ensure the success of our district.

Mrs. Cutter didn't agree with pursuing both at the same time, but felt that we needed to do both. If we decided to pursue a parcel tax she would like to see us guarantee staffing, not only teachers, but maintenance and equipment to sustain the facilities. Another avenue she thought the District could explore would be to have the City work with developers for example to "entice" new homeowners to San Leandro. Mrs. Cutter would like Leon and Chris to come back to the Board with a timeline, different scenarios and proposed tasks to discuss and consider proceeding with either the bond, parcel tax, or both.

Mr. Richards mentioned that members of the Advocacy Committee received a copy of a memo from Jones Halls regarding *School Campaign Laws* at their meeting, and requested that copies be sent to the other members of the Board.

Board members had concerns on whether or not to "piggyback" with the possible November 2005 special election (as Ms. Perry had suggested) or look at June 2006.

Mr. Cassidy requested that between now and when the proposed timeline and tasks are drafted, the District talk to the leaders of each of the employee representative groups as part of the process. Mrs. Hague had concerns about the impact a November 2005 election may have on these employee associations stating that their desire to help may be blunted by other "fights" they were addressing at this particular time.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the Superintendent and staff draft a timeline, list of tasks, and recommendations for the Board to review at the April 19 Board meeting regarding proceeding with a Bond and/or Parcel Tax with a possible special election in November 2005 or June 2006.

#### 1.2-CF Communication Committee

The Board discussed and considered adopting the proposed charge and reconvening the Board Communication Committee as a standing committee.

- Mr. Heystek explained that as a result of the Board's interest in exploring the addition of a standing Communications Committee, the Communication Ad Hoc Committee, including Trustees Cassidy and Perry, met to discuss the charge, scope and priorities of the proposed standing committee. It was their recommendation that the charge remain as previously established by the Board at its goal-setting sessions from 2000/01 year: *The goal of the Communication Committee is to keep all members of the community and the District's organization informed about student achievement and other District issues.*"

Mr. Davis asked if the committee discussed combining the Advocacy and Communication Committee. Mr. Heystek said that the subject was briefly discussed but didn't have a recommendation.

The Board discussed combining both committees with the majority feeling that moving forward and focusing on communicating with the community was the issue at hand and that it would be more advantageous to have the committees separate due to the substantial jobs each entailed.

Mr. Heystek added that the Committee also discussed other communications –related strategies for consideration by the full board such as:

- Scheduling of community-wide bond/parcel tax workshop
- Reestablishing the District-wide newsletter
- As an alternative to the reestablished newsletter, publish a periodic insert in local newspapers (e.g. Hayward Unified School District's quarterly newsletter in the Daily Review)
- Contingent upon adequate funding, publish a close-out newsletter as a final report on the Measure A Building Program
- Hold periodic meetings with three or fewer Board members at school sites to solicit feedback, concerns and input on timely issues, especially a possible bond/parcel tax election (to ensure equity, Board Members would have an

opportunity to sign up to attend meetings convenient to them)

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adopted the proposed charge and reconvened the Board Communication Committee as a standing committee by a 7-0 vote.

Following the vote, President Cutter appointed Mr. Cassidy, Chair with Ms. Perry and Mr. Heystek as members of the Communication Committee.

### 1.3-CF Superintendent's Evaluation Form

The Board discussed and considered adopting the revised Superintendent's Evaluation Form for use beginning June 2005 and refer revision of BP 2123 to the Policy Committee.

Chair Louis Heystek shared information about the form explaining that because the current version (E (2) 2123 of the Board Policy) did not reflect the Board's rating of the Superintendent's actual achievement of goals statements and action steps as agreed upon at the beginning of the school year, it was the desire of the Board to explore a form on which members could specifically respond directly of how well the Superintendent addressed the action steps of her plan.

Highlights of the form included ratings on a five-point scale (1 low, 5 high); cells in which Board members could specially respond to the Superintendent's performance on a particular action step; an area entitled "Summary Comments" where Board members could provide assessment of the Superintendent's performance with respect to activities, issues and events not address in the agreed-upon goals; and for the composite evaluation submitted by the Board President and area to record the single overall rating, a statement indicating that the Superintendent may respond in writing within 10 days of receipt of the Board's composite evaluation; and signature lines for the Board President and Superintendent.

Overall, Board members liked the revised form, found it workable and appreciated the time and effort that Trustee Richards put into developing the form.

Mr. Cassidy found that the ratings didn't factor in the weight of importance, and how would he know if certain actions steps were met. He added that he wanted to be able to rate the Superintendent on whether or not she was doing a good job and provide comments on that and this form limited him to the goals set on the form.

Mr. Heystek explained that the form was centered around the goals as they were structured adding that the Board may want to look at a document in the future that would be more long term. Ms. Lim explained that she submits a self-reflection and analysis with supporting documentation of her goals in June which is prior to the Board completing their evaluation.

Mrs. Cutter felt that the form needed to be more objective then subjective.

Mr. Cassidy thought that rating should be linked to the goal and not the individual action steps.

Mr. Davis said that this was not a perfect form, but the Board needed to think of the form as a tool that would also help them craft future goals.

Superintendent Lim personally thanked the Ad Hoc Committee and Mr. Richards for their work. She emphasized Mrs. Hague comment relating to “norming” a writing rubric and that the discussion tonight was good and lent itself to that.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adopted the revised Superintendent’s Evaluation Form for use beginning June 2005 and refer revision of BP 2123 to the Policy Committee by a 6-1 vote. Mr. Cassidy voting no.

### Educational Services

#### 3.1-CF Visual and Performing Arts Five-Year Plan

The Board discussed and considered approving the Five-Year Visual and Performing Arts Plan 2004-2009.

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the Five-Year Visual and Performing Arts Plan 2004-2005 by a 7-0 vote.

## Business, Operations and Facilities

### 4.1-CF Demographer Consultant Agreement

The Board discussed and considered the pros and cons of obtaining a demographer to provide long term trends in student population and impact on facilities.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Billy Campbell urged the Board to use an in-house method of projecting school enrollment and not a professional demographer.

Mr. Glaster updated the Board that the cost of the demographer would be \$20,000 and would not be available until October 2005. It was his opinion the a conservative in-house method of projecting enrollment was essential for protecting the District's financial position, but it didn't provide a scientific research-based analysis for long term enrollment projections which is needed when considering a bond or parcel tax.

Mr. Richards wanted to know how far projections needed to go out when considering a bond/parcel tax. Mr. Glaster thought ten years, but that the District could only provide multi-year projects (2 years).

Mr. Heystek was supportive and understood Mr. Campbell's concern regarding the money spent on such services but said that when lobbying for a bond or parcel tax, the community wants to see the third-party analysis of the District's trends that provides creditably for the cause.

Mr. Cassidy was hesitant about spending the money out of the general fund but that this would be a prudent investment as the District needed the best data available to help sell the bond/parcel tax.

Ms. Perry would like to see the demographic issues center around the number kindergarteners entering the schools over an extended period of time and would support surveying data at the preschool level rather than a complete demographer survey.

Mrs. Hague commended the District for choosing to use an in-house forecast in the past; however if "selling" our needs to the community was necessary, than she would support some demographic data on a limited bases.

When questioned regarding her opinion, Superintendent Lim said that she was not impressed with the previous demographer used by the District, felt that it was not cost effective, and it didn't insure that we would receive more accurate information. She said the District should look at the overcrowding at the high school and address the issue from that angle instead of growth. Mr. Cassidy appreciated her comments but hoped the District would look at other demographers, stressing the importance of the report.

Mrs. Hague stated that while it seems that we are in a non-growth mode, the reality is likely that as our programs improve there will be growth and pointed out that in the past, when the District had to close the schools, they sold the properties and the City built houses on those sites.

With the consensus of the Board, President Cutter directed staff to bring back to the Board at the next meeting an abbreviated contract, costs, define the scope of services with specific methodology outlined, location of students, i.e. preschool and high school; and track record/history of potential demographers.

#### 4.7-CF

#### Vanir Construction Management Appreciation Plaque

The Board discussed and considered approving the wording for an appreciation plaque for Measure A Bond from Vanir Construction Management.

The discussion centered around whether or not to include the names of the chairs of the Yes for Kids committee on the plaque.

Following the discussion and on a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board approved the following wording for an appreciation plaque for Measure A Bond from Vanir Construction Management by the following 4-3 vote:

Ayes: Hague, Perry, Davis, Richards

No: Cassidy, Cutter, Heystek

***“Vanir Construction Management, Inc. thanks the Yes for Kids Committee, San Leandro Community, and the San Leandro Unified School District for making the Measure A Bond program a success”.***

## **ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

- Mr. Richards expressed his concern regarding a critical letter (that was forwarded to him) originally sent to the Board president through the District Office, from a law firm, on March 15 in reference to the employment contract between the Superintendent Lim and the District stating an opinion that a clause in the contract was illegal. He questioned the process that was followed explaining that the Board needed to be included. President Cutter said that because it was a contract issue, legal counsel was reviewing it and it would be addressed through the contract of the Superintendent.

Superintendent Lim said that she had received a verbal response today from legal counsel and a written copy would be sent to the Board President. Mrs. Cutter asked that each member also receive a copy of the response.

- Mr. Davis found it frustrating that while the staff had no recommendation regarding the demographer consultant agreement, the Superintendent, upon questioning, had an opinion, resulting in a longer discussion that might not have been necessary had the Superintendent shared her information with the staff. He also requested that the Board Requests Matrix be sent out on a regular basis so that he could monitor the status of his issues raised. Mr. Davis suggested that as part of the Board Committee Reports, a summary of actions taken at meetings be included in the packet under fiscal impact as well as information regarding items that may not be agendaized but were discussed at their meeting.
- In regards to the letter referenced by Mr. Richards, Mr. Cassidy was concerned about the delay between when it was received and when it was opened.

Mr. Cassidy passed out excerpts from four emails that he had received to the Board and Superintendent regarding community concerns stressing that while these statements may not be accurate, they are views that the District needs to be aware of:

- \* Loss of graduating Roosevelt students from our District
- \* Ensuring teachers have time to collaborate
- \* Test scores (latest API ranking) and teacher salaries (lack of monetary reward for their hard work)
- \* Impact of out of district students on test scores

He also shared an email from a parent sent last year regarding the English language learner program noting that there was an article in the Daily Review regarding Hayward Unified focusing on English lessons which is an evaluation of their English learner program. He then asked Superintendent Lim if there



was going to be any evaluation of the District's English learner program that would be presented to the Board to review. Ms. Lim indicated that she spoke with Educational Services and it was decided that that would be their summer work.

- Ms. Perry thanked the Board for signing the Resolution of Appreciation to Bob Glaze. She announced that she was reelected to the CBSA Delegate Assembly along with Gwen Estes, New Haven; Nina Moore, Fremont; and Denis King, Dublin. Ms. Perry attended the:
  - \* DLAC meeting where there were very interesting conversations, all in Spanish, regarding the gaps that occur particularly between parents and students at the middle and high school levels, and lack of support. Ms. Perry encouraged other members to attend
  - \* Alameda County *Breakfast Dialogue for Alameda County District Board Members* along with Trustees Heystek, Cassidy. They met the new business CEO, Darlene Naylor, who gave a presentation on budget development and Williams' legislation
  - \* Business Academy Awards
  - \* Madison Spring Music Concert along with Mr. Richards
- Mrs. Hague had a concern regarding the April 15 deadline for a response to the letter regarding the Superintendent's contract.

Mr. Cassidy suggested asking for an extension to respond.

Mrs. Cutter said she would write a letter of response.

Mrs. Hague had questions concerning the No Child Left Behind Act and its impact upon teachers holding multiple subject credentials at the middle school level noting that she had discussed this with the Superintendent.

President Cutter polled the Board for consensus on dates to discuss the proposed bond/parcel tax. The Board agreed on the following timeline:

- 4/19 Board to receive a timeline and action steps based on the Board decision tonight
- 4/25 Special Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. to continue the discussion on the priorities and the framing of issues before soliciting community feedback
- 5/23 Community Meeting regarding the school bond/parcel scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the San Leandro High School cafeteria.

Because the Joint City/District meeting is scheduled for May 24, Ms. Perry suggested rescheduling the joint meeting with the City because of Board work-related conflicts.

Mrs. Hague agreed with Ms. Perry reiterating the need to resolve the calendar issues.

President Cutter said that she would propose some dates, after the week of June 13, to the Board and then ask the Superintendent to forward the dates to the City.

Mr. Cassidy asked that the Superintendent to send a notice to the principals asking them to included the dates in their newsletters.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Future Board of Education Meetings**

- 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 Mrs. Hague and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:50 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond E. Davis III, Clerk