

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

February 1, 2007

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in special session on February 1, 2007, in the San Leandro Unified School District Office Conference Room 1, 14735 Juniper Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Richards.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Pauline Cutter
Mr. Ray Davis
Mrs. Lisa Hague
Mr. Mike Katz-Lacabe
Ms. Perry, Clerk
Mr. Stephen Cassidy, Vice President
Mr. T.W. "Rick" Richards, President

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Leon Glaster, Assistant Superintendent
Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent
Felipe Ibarra, Director, Human Resources

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:31 p.m., the Board went into closed session regarding Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Unrepresented Employees:

- Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

The Board returned to open session at 5 p.m. with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag led by Trustee Davis. President Richards said that the Board had been in closed session and no action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

Human Resources

2.1-A Employee Contract between the San Leandro Unified School District and the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board approved the employment contract between the San Leandro Unified School District and the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources from February 5, 2007, through June 30, 2009, as modified.

CONFERENCE ITEMS

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-CF Proposed Formation of Measure B Design Teams

The Board discussed and considered approving the proposed formation of the Measure B Design Teams.

Superintendent distributed and walked the Board through the draft of the Proposed Formation of the Measure B Design Teams whose purpose would be to identify programmatic and facility needs within the physical and budget constraints of Measure B, focusing on four major bond projects: the 9th Grade Educational Campus, Arts Education Center (Visual and Performing Arts and Multi-Media), San Leandro High School Library Expansion, and Career Technical Education Industrial Arts Building.

She further explained that staff was recommending that each of the Design Teams be composed of up to thirty (30) members, including a District staff liaison, District staff (teachers and other certificated), parents (United Parents, SSC, ELAC), union representatives (CSEA, Building Trades, SLTA), students (SLHS, 8th grade, Lincoln), community leaders/non-profits (RHOA, Chamber, senior and business), skilled community members (technology, environmental, construction, and architecture), a San Leandro resident, nominated by the City; and a Board member appointed by the President of the Board.

The recruitment process would be advertised on the website, in press releases, and on flyers and posters at all sites, and applications would be available up through March 5, 2007, with a community information meeting to explain the purpose, scope, and time commitments scheduled for 6 p.m. at San Leandro High School on March 5. The application deadline would be March 8, 2007, by 4:30 p.m.

The Measure B Design Teams Steering Committee comprised of Cabinet members and the liaisons supporting these Teams would be reviewing applications and making the selections with the Design Teams Committee members being announced at a community meeting held on March 12, 2007, at San Leandro High School, in the cafeteria, at 6 p.m., in conjunction with the PG & E Parking Lot Construction Community Forum.

The Superintendent said it was anticipated that the Design Teams would begin work in mid-March and complete their charge within two to three months (approximately June 1). The Teams would meet two to three times a month (up to 9 meetings, and may have sub-committees. Meeting times would be determined by the committee members at their first meeting (a brief meeting after the March 12, 2007, community forum, with the hope of staff honoring those Design Team members at the June 5, 2007, Board meeting.

Thoughts and suggestions from the Board regarding the composition of the proposal centered around the balance of numbers between the District, community, and school representatives, if the City representative needed to be a San Leandro resident, and whether or not Board members should be part of the Team, with the Board reaching the following consensus: In addition to the District staff liaison the Design Team would be composed of District staff including up to 10 teachers or other certificated, and up to 4 custodian, and union reps, up to 3 parents; up to 5 students ranging from 8th to 11th grade; up to 6 community leaders/non-profits/community member skilled in areas of technology, environmental, construction and architecture; and up to 2 City of San Leandro staff, nominated by the City for a total of 30.

The Board agreed that a Board member should not be part of the Team as it may affect the process; however, it was important that they attend the meetings, but only in an "observer" capacity and update the Board on any information presented.

With regards to the recruitment process, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Katz felt that the District needed to be transparent and open, suggesting that applications be made available to the public, adding that once the deadline had passed the documents should be scanned and posted on the website.

Trustees Cutter and Perry cautioned the Board that this effort might become a lobbying process and that there needed to be well defined ground rules. Ms. Perry suggested only listing the names of the applicants.

Mr. Davis felt it was important to have a diverse group of applicants, and stressed the importance of outreach and recruitment that encompassed the entire City.

It was the consensus of the Board to have the Superintendent return to the February 6 Board meeting with an updated proposal incorporating the feedback shared tonight, including addressing the community outreach.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board approved the Formation of Measure B Design Teams as modified, by a 7-0 vote.

4.2-CF Selection of the Measure B Citizens Oversight Committee

The Board discussed and considered approving the selection of the Measure B Citizens Oversight Committee as recommended by the Board Facilities/Technology Committee.

Mr. Davis, Chair, of the Facilities/Technology Committee, explained that the School District had received 13 applications and the committee had met over a two-day period interviewing perspective candidates for the Citizen Oversight Committee positions whose purpose is to “actively review and report on the propose expenditure of taxpayers’ money for school construction” on the Measure B Bond projects and ensure that funds are used for legally authorized purposes; and no funds are used for teacher or administrative salaries. In addition, he said that the committee must have no less than seven members, with five required to hold the following very specific roles:

- 1 person who is a student who is involved in student government;
- 1 person who is active in a business organization;
- 1 person who is active in a found which supports the District;
- 1 person who is active in a senior citizens organization; and
- 1 person who is active in a bona fide taxpayers organization.

He reported that from those thirteen candidates, three felt that they would be better suited and willing to serve on one or more of the Measure B Design Teams, leaving 10 very strong and talented applicants. In addition because the interest in the student position was so high, the committee was recommending that the position would be co-chaired by two San Leandro High School juniors who are active in student leadership.

On motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board appointed, Mary Beth Barloga, Tom Guarino, Robert Brannan, Charles Gilcrest, Jaun Gonzalez, Deborah Cox, Gerald Shovlin, James Moher, Andrew Kopp, and two San Leandro High School juniors, Abir Salamy and Briana Toney, (co-chairing the position) to the Citizens Oversight Committee by a 7-0 vote.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Mr. Cassidy noted the need to develop a high school strategic plan with regards to career technical education to support the Design Team in their upcoming efforts. He was also interested in seeing a proposed plan for Measure B.

Mr. Cassidy also asked and received Board consensus to have the Superintendent craft a letter (for President Richards to respond on behalf of the District and Board) addressing recent negative letters (including one from an elected City official) in the San Leandro Times regarding the decision to construct a campus for 9th grade students. He requested that the response be placed in the *Confidentially Speaking* for Board feedback before it is published.

Trustees Cutter and Perry felt it should be a joint event between the Board President and Superintendent and more of an information letter addressing the misconceptions raised by the public.

Mr. Richards agreed, adding that he had spoken to the Superintendent briefly about this issue and was told that a response was already in the process of being drafted for his signature, and that the Superintendent would also be writing an informative article regarding Measure B.

Mr. Cassidy also shared that during a recent discussion with Mayor Santos, the Mayor had indicated to him that federal monies for a performing arts center had been included in the City's "Wish list for funding priorities for San Leandro" given to representatives for Pete Stark.

As President of CSBA, Ms. Perry noted that she had mentioned, at the last Board meeting, her appointment as liaison to Pete Stark's office regarding federal issues and asked if it was wish of the Board for her to continue in that capacity, to which the Board agreed.

With regards to confidentiality of residency verification and statistics, Mr. Cassidy and Mr. Katz both felt it would be in the best interest of the District to

publicly address this issue as way of dispelling those misconceptions that continue to be raised by the public.

- Mrs. Cutter asked for an update on the HAAL appeal process.
- Mrs. Hague announced that John Muir would be hosting a Spaghetti Feed tomorrow, Feb. 2, from 5-8 p.m., which will benefit Muir's first trip to Disneyland.
- Mr. Richards said that he received a communication from Gail Travers, a real estate agent with Remax, expressing a desire to donate \$400 out of every escrow they closed in San Leandro (which could amount to approximately \$24,000 a year) to school sites, selected by the seller or buyer. He distributed a copy of the letter asking the Board to consider this, adding that he has asked the Superintendent and staff to contact the realtor about the process. He also suggested that the District and Remax issue a joint press release advertising and challenging other realties to consider this funding opportunity. Trustee Perry indicated that at least one realtor was already offering this in the Roosevelt Elementary School area, suggesting that the District needed to look policy and the process.

The Superintendent proudly announced that following a Standard & Poor's Bond rating presentation by Assistant Superintendent Leon Glaster and her, the District, once again, received news of a continuing A+ rating, which further demonstrates how committed the District is to fiscal responsibility. She thanked Mr. Glaster for all of his work, and he explained that the rating meant "lower interest rates and lower taxes for the citizens of San Leandro."

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by and seconded by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Perry, Clerk