

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA 94579  
[www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us](http://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us)

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES**

February 10, 2009

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in special session on February 10, 2009, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street, San Leandro, California 94577.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Mike Katz-Lacabe.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Hermy Almonte  
Mrs. Lisa Hague  
Ms. Morgan Mack-Rose  
Ms. Carmen Sullivan  
Mrs. Pauline Cutter, Clerk  
Mrs. Diana Prola, Vice President (arrived at  
Mr. Mike Katz-Lacabe, President  
Ms. Flavia Coria, Student Board Member

**DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT**

Christine Lim, Superintendent  
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent  
Michael Potmesil, Assistant Superintendent  
Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent  
Linda Pollard, Administrative Assistant

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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 regarding Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Hiring, Conference with Labor Negotiator, and Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Property (ies) pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957.6 and 54956.6, and 54956.8. The closed session ended at 7:15 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:22 p.m. with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag. President Katz-Lacabe noted that the Board had been in closed session where no action was taken.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mark Hamilton, on behalf of the San Leandro Teachers' Association, addressed the Board regarding support of the teaching program, increased health care costs for employees, low pay and compensation and teacher turnovers. He urged the Board to protect and enhance the future of the District's education program, making sure that program cuts do not weaken the basic services our students need.
- Jan Nuño, Garfield Elementary School Principal, addressed the Board on behalf of the San Leandro Management Association (SLMA), stating that if cuts must be made then they must be made across the board and not eliminate positions and programs, adding that we are all interrelated and vital and it is the responsibility for all of us to cut back.
- Rich Fishbaugh spoke against across-the-board cuts and to keep cuts as far away from the students as possible.
- Elisa Alvarez, a San Lorenzo Unified administrator and teacher, addressed the Board regarding small class sizes, urging the Board to not take away Class Size Reduction (CSR).
- Jerry Engler encouraged the Board not to choose music, sports, or extra curricular activities to cut, but to look at "big ticket items" such as publicity, and keep the cuts as far away from the students and as equitable as possible.

## **CONFERENCE ITEM**

Superintendent Lim explained the process of tonight's meeting, reiterating how outraged she is that the state cannot pass a budget. She encouraged everyone to reach out to the legislature and voice their concerns, stating, "The way schools are funded much change".

2.1-CF Discuss and Possibly Take Action on the List of Items Generated in Response to the State's Fiscal Crisis and its Impact on San Leandro Schools

The Board discussed and considered taking action on the list of items generated in response to the state's fiscal crisis and its impact on San Leandro schools.

It was explained that at the request of the Board, staff would bring back cost analysis options from the list that was generated and compiled at the February 3 Board meeting. It was also the consensus of the Board at that meeting that, in light of the short timeframe, staff would also provide costs associated with personnel-related items.

The Board reviewed the list that was provided by staff and identified those items needing further clarification and possible consideration for reduction.

At 9:40 p.m. the Board took a break and reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

Following the break, the Board took a second look at the identified items. They reached consensus on a wide range of areas requesting that staff review those items return with additional clarification.

At 10:25 p.m., on a motion made by Mrs. Prola and seconded by Mrs. Cutter, the Board extended the meeting until 10:40 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

- Diana Quintal, parent of a first grader, advocated for Class Size Reduction (CSR). She asked the Board to consider other alternatives such as pay reductions, reducing extra curricular activities. She also urged the Board to find a way to bring the community on board to support a parcel tax, which can be very critical to the future of the school district.

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

- Ms. Mack-Rose commended the bargaining units for working with the District in moving forward. She encouraged everyone to keep the lines of communication open so that decisions can be made in an open and timely manner.
- Mr. Katz-Lacabe thanked everyone for their patience and participation in this very difficult process, adding that decisions have not been made and

while there is a timeline that must be followed, the Board will continue to welcome any additional comments or suggestions from staff, parents, and the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Mrs. Prola and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Cutter, Clerk