

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA 94579
www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES

February 17, 2009

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on February 17, 2009, in the student cafeteria at San Leandro High School, 2200 Bancroft Avenue, San Leandro, California 94577.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 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
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 REGARDING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

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

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:03 p.m., the Board went into closed session Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – significant exposure to litigation, Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Property(ies), and Tort Claim (1) pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.(b), 54956.8, and 54956. It was determined that there was no need for Student Expulsions in closed session. The closed session was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Katz-Lacabe said the Board had been in closed session and the following action was taken:

- On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Ms. Mack-Rose, the Board denied Liability Claim #411740 by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mrs. Prola and seconded by Mr. Almonte, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of February 17, 2009, by a 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATION

- * Jeff Kuntz, on behalf of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) presented a recommendation regarding possible budget reductions. The BAC, formed in March 2008, is comprised of 20 members representing various stakeholders, including parents, community, Classified School Employees Association, San Leandro Teachers' Association, San Leandro Managers Association, and Teamsters/Trades. The committee has had numerous meetings reviewing and discussing the list of items generated in response to the state's fiscal crisis and its impact on San Leandro Schools.

Mr. Kuntz reported that the major sentiment of the groups was that cuts should be shared across the board, adding that the current fiscal crisis presents the District and community an opportunity to come together and serve as model for other districts.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Cutter reported the following emails from February 2, 2008 – February 13, 2008: From Stephen Cassidy regarding Rally for Our Children; from Garry Grotke regarding budget cuts – equal across the board; from Kelly Loew Cokenes regarding school lunches; from Dan Martin regarding Rally for Education; from Julie Ahern regarding budget cuts – AVID; from Jill Raimondi regarding budget – BAC input; from Andrew Kopp regarding budget cuts – relevancy; from Jill Stowe regarding budgets cuts – CSR; from Karen Ott-Smith, Russ Tomlin (representing three librarians), Casey Wilson, Hilda Njinimbam, Jan

Othen, Marcelo Germar, Patricia Bonning, Krista Haman, Andrew Fisher, Delores Apton, Marilyn Watson, Sam Lucero, Marie Vangene, Cynthia Schultz, Rochelle Lokting, and Jeff Strum regarding budget cuts – library; Colleen Hess regarding budget cuts – Special Education; from Teresa Zumbo regarding budget cuts, across the board; from Perry Lightfoot regarding budget cuts – Special Education; from John McKissack, Jr. regarding the high school swimming pool, and from Elisa Alvarez regarding budget cuts – CSR.

2) Student Board Member Report – Flavia Coria, Student Board Member said that she completed interviewing teachers. She will share the information with the Board during her report once the information has been compiled.

3) Union Representatives Reports -

- Billy Campbell, Teamsters’ representative, agreed with the across-the-board cuts; however, he reminded the Board that Teamster/Trades has had five cuts, without replacements, adding that “we are bare bones” and further cuts would impact the safety, health, and sanitation of the schools.
- Don Bilodeau, Trades representative, addressed the Board regarding other cost-savings measures such as early retirement for veteran teachers and furlough days (which would have to be approved by various unions before going to the Board.)
- Jon Sherr, President of the San Leandro Teachers’ Association (SLTA) shared a communication that he sent out to the SLTA members regarding the state budget crisis. He encouraged the Board to consider making decisions that impact the students the least. He pledged that the union would work closely with the Board during the difficult reductions.
- Carol Delton, District speech therapist and SLTA representative to the Budget Advisory Committee focused on reductions to the District Office administrative personnel.
- Carol Alvarez, representing the California School Employees Association (CSEA) urged the Board to consider other ways other than reducing classified staff, stressing that “when you chip away at us, you are chipping away at your own foundation.”
- Jan Nuno, San Leandro Managers Association (SLMA), commented, that laying off personnel in any school or department at any level

would only decrease services to our students, and that SLMA believes that “temporary reduction over elimination is in the best interest of our school community and the students that serve.”

- 4) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim addressed this very difficult time, reiterating that this was not something that the District has done, but rather is something “being done to us”. She stressed that we must stand up and continue to fight for the rights of our students and our District, and the way education is funded, adding that she values every member of our organization.

Responding to the Early Retirement Incentive, the Superintendent said that staff was aggressively working on the details and would be prepared to meet with the unions as soon as the information was ironed out. She implored everyone to stand together and see this through and hopefully “things will begin to look up.”

- 5) Board Committee Reports

- Facilities/Technology –Mrs. Cutter reported that the committee met on February 5, 2009, at San Leandro High School. The meeting began with an inspection of the pool with Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker, members of the County Health Department, representatives from the Drowning Darryls, and District staff. Mrs. Cutter reported that the pump had been installed and was working, adding that once two other items are repaired, the swim team could begin practicing. However, it was noted that the team had already lost three weeks of practice.

The committee also discussed the amendment to WLC Architects contract for the design of the San Leandro High School Arts Education Center to provide recalculations for the seismic structural design, which was being brought forward for Board consideration tonight.

- 6) Board Representatives’ Reports

- Eden Area Regional Occupational Program – Mr. Katz-Lacabe reported that the Council recognized Students of the Month for January and February. The ROP is hosting an Open House at the end of the month and a flyer is forthcoming.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mrs. Cutter requested that Consent Items 1.1-C, Approval of Board Minutes – January 21, 2009; 1.2-C, Approval of Board Minutes – January 29, 2009; and 1.3-C, Approval of Board Minutes – February 5, 2009 be pulled.

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Educational Services

3.1-C Acceptance of Donations

3.2-C Memorandum of Understanding for the San Leandro Adult School, Hayward Adult School, and Chabot College

Business Operations

4.1-C Ratification of Payroll for January 2009

4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants

Facilities and Construction

5.1-C Amendment No. 1 to the WLC Architects Contract for the Design of the San Leandro High School Arts Education Center to Provide Recalculations for the Seismic Structural Design

On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Ms. Mack-rose, the Board approved the remaining consent items by a 7-0 vote.

General Services

Mrs. Cutter noted that, because the minutes were not initially included with Board packet and sent out separately the day before the Board meeting, enough time had not be allowed for review.

1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – January 21, 2009

1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – January 29, 2009

1.3-C Approval of Board Minutes – February 5, 2009

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Diana Prola, the Board pulled Consent Items 1.1-C, Approval of Board Minutes – January 21, 2009; 1.2-C, Approval of Board Minutes – January 29, 2009; and 1.3-C, Approval of Board Minutes – February 5, 2009 to the next meeting by a 7-0 vote.

CONFERENCE

General Services

1.1-CF 2009 CSBA Delegate Assembly

On a motion made by Ms. Mack-Rose and seconded by Mrs. Prola tabled 1.1-CF, 2009 CSBA Delegate Assembly, to the next Board meeting due to lack of time to review the information by a 7-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard comments from the following teachers, classified and administrative staff, parents, and community members regarding program reductions and services being considered and a Parcel Tax: Aulani Cler, Sandy Lum, Cher Mott, Janet Beck, Andrew Storar, Kathy Maier, Jocelyn Gooch, Susan Dent, Michael Song, David Leese, Estaban Zapiain, Nicole O'Shaughnessy; Bob Wright; Rick Richards, Chris Wallace Ailsworth, Pamela Richards, Kathy Tronvig, Rich Fishbaugh, Belen Magers, Mike Walbridge, Carol Alvarez, Thomas Morse, Diana Dove, Susan Criswell, Elisa Alvarez, Latrina Dumas; Maureen Forney, Dan Martin; Stephen Cassidy and Audrey Brown

The Board took a break at 9:23 p.m. and reconvened at 9:28 p.m.

Human Resources

2.1-CF Prioritize and Possibly Take Action on the List of Program Reductions and Services

The Board discussed, prioritized and came to consensus on a few program reductions and services in response to the state[s fiscal crisis and its impact on San Leandro schools.

At 10:28 p.m., the meeting was extended on a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mrs. Prola to 11:30 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Board asked staff to gather more information for a special meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, in the City Council Chambers at the San Leandro City Hall, beginning at 6 p.m.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$13,491,389.95 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

4.2-I Investment Report for December 2008

The Board received for information and review the Investment Report for the month of December 2008.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

Special Board Meeting, February 24, 2009
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2009
Regular Meeting – March 12, 2009 (DO)
Regular Meeting – March 17, 2009
Regular Meeting – April 21, 2009
Regular Meeting – May 5, 2009
Regular Meeting – May 19, 2009
Regular Meeting – June 2, 2009
Regular Meeting – June 16, 2009
Special Meeting – June 25, 2009 (placeholder)

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mrs. Prola, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Cutter, Clerk