

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

March 7, 2006

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on March 7, 2006, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Pauline Cutter.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Ray Davis
Mr. Louis Heystek
Ms. Linda Perry
Mr. T. W. "Rick" Richards
Mrs. Lisa Hague, Clerk (arrived at 6:09 pm)
Mr. Stephen Cassidy, Vice President (arrived at 6:09 pm)
Mrs. Pauline Cutter, President

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Leon Glaster, Assistant Superintendent
Michael Martinez, 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

A 6:07 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Student Expulsions, Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Superintendent's Evaluation, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, and Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918(c), and Government Code Sections 54957, and 54957.6. The closed session was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:25 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Cutter said the Board had been in closed session and took the following action:

On a motion made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Perry, the Board accepted the terms and conditions of a proposed settlement agreement with certificated employee #1896 by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of March 7, 2006, by a 7-0 vote.

REPORTS Student Representatives' Reports – San Leandro High School student representative Alison Zhao updated the Board on activities at the high school including the WASC team has completed their visit, Principal Furtado has declared March as Community Service Month where high school service clubs or organizations can win up to \$500 for the most student participation in Measure A events such as precinct walking and phone booth dates. The San Leandro Youth Advisory Commission held their annual Youth Summit. Prom/Fashion show will be March 8 during lunch. The Notables will be performing songs from the musical *Wicked*. Spring drama production, *The Auditioners*, will be presented March 9 through March 11. AP Studio Art Annual Art Show will be holding their artist reception, March 10, at the San Leandro Museum and Art Gallery. Precinct walking for Measure A is Saturday, March 11, 9-12 noon; track and field will be having a car wash, and March 13 is 8th grade parents' night. ASB will be selling St. Patrick's Day balloons, and DECA will hold a "Day on the Green" on Friday, March 17. ASB members will be volunteering at the St. Patrick's Day dinner at St. Leanders Church. Girls and boys basketball season is over; softball, baseball, and boys' tennis season has begun.

PRESENTATIONS

- * Steve Wescoatt from Perry-Smith, LLP presented the 2004/2005 Annual Audit Report, highlighting the various areas that are the responsibility of the auditor to report under generally accepted auditing standards: management judgments and accounting estimates, audit and potential adjustments, and accounting policies and alternative treatments. He reported that they did not encounter any disagreements with management, were not aware of any consultations with other accountants, there were no major issues

discussed with management prior to retention, and they did not encounter any difficulties while performing the audit, adding that the District staff did a tremendous job in providing the necessary information needed to complete the audit.

Mr. Wescoatt explained that, new this year, in addition to focusing on attendance and attendance related issues, auditors were now required to look at how construction funds such as bonds, facilities funds, and lottery monies were spent, compliance with certain provisions of the Williams Act, and School Accountability Report Card (SARC).

Associate Student Body (ASB) accounting, bank reconciliations for ASB and Cafeteria account, and attendance accounting and reporting were areas reported in the Findings and Recommendations. It was the recommendation of Perry-Smith that the District review current student body accounting policies and procedures to address internal control deficiencies, bank reconciliations for all funds be prepared in a timely manner and reviewed on a monthly basis, and that District management staff visit the sites to review attendance reports and procedures prior to the auditor's visit. The District also suggested that Perry-Smith might provide an in-service for site personnel highlighting the importance of internal control with respect to student body accounting.

President Cutter thanked Mr. Wescoatt for the audit and explanations, Assistant Superintendent Leon Glaster, and asked Business Manager Bruce Colby to extend the Board's thanks to the Business Department.

- * Kit Oase, Principal of Lincoln High School, presented the school's WASC self-study and action plan, which will serve as the school's Single School Plan for the 2005-2008 school years. Review and modifications to the action plan will be made on an annual basis as needed. The WASC team will be visiting Lincoln High School the week of March 13 to conduct the WASC review, validate the school's self-review, and add their perspective regarding next steps for the school.

Mr. Oase framed his presented by explaining that Lincoln serves those students who are behind in their credits for graduation, and that the student body was composed of 20 percent English Language Learners (most of them fluent), 50 percent receive free lunch, a 56 percent mobility rate, and one in eight students currently have a IEP.

Despite the high turnover of staff due to retirements and transfers (only one out of the 4.8 classified and certificated employees at Lincoln has been their since 1999, Mr. Oase said that Lincoln continues to improve and help students move ahead, receive their high school diplomas, and focus on academic, personal, social, regional occupational programs, work experience, and volunteer programs so that they can become viable members of the community.

Needed improvement areas identified in the their self-study included serving their special needs students better, continuing to make curriculum improvements in reading and math, looking at discipline procedures for continued affective results, making sure that students have success through the acquisition of learning and management strategies, and utilize and expand technology resources, to which Mr. Oase announced that following a visit from *Direct TV Goes to School*, Lincoln now had access to cable news and educational programming.

Mr. Heystek asked Mr. Oase to share his vision for Lincoln, if money were no object. Mr. Oase said he'd like to expand on alternative types of programs such as opportunity programs for 7th to 9th grade students, and create small high schools that meet the needs of students in our community; however, he would not want to see Lincoln become so large that it would lose the "flavor" of a smaller campus.

Parental involvement and counseling services were two issues raised by Mr. Cassidy. Mr. Oase agreed that, while parental involvement could be challenging, students could not enroll in Lincoln's program without having had a student/parent conference and orientation, adding that staff had found that maintaining phone contact had been the most successful way of keeping in touch with parents.

Mr. Oase explained that Davis Street Community Counseling and Girls' Inc. provide counseling during the week with support services and referrals also available. Staff used a proactive approach to counseling services, noting that Alameda County would be coming to the site to talk about suicide prevention soon.

Mrs. Cuter thanked him for the presentation.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Elementary school parents, Lori King, Amy Olson, Stacie Clauson, and Denise Lucas, voiced their concerns and opposition to the Board regarding the Safe Space Poster and curriculum regarding sexual orientation and

gender identity, urging the Board go back to the drawing board and create a more comprehensive program that addressed safety for all students, consider other programs such as Soul Shoppe, and to involve the parents in the decision-making process.

- Rebecca Rodriguez, a “gay” mom, continued her support for the Board and District. She encouraged them to look at the differences between sexual orientation and sexual behavior, asking them to stay the course, and don’t waiver, so that all students have a safe place to learn.
- Lou Filipovich addressed the Board regarding the District’s lack of accounting of the tax payers’ dollars, newspaper coverage, community involvement, and union representation at public Board meetings.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Hague reported receiving emails from Maureen Shapiro, Sue Blevins, and Ed Shapiro regarding health services; from Pat Rennie regarding her Safe Space Poster comments at the February 22, Board meeting; from Lori King, Morgan Mack-Rose, Whitney Walker, Tim Holmes regarding the Safe Space Poster; from Nellie Abernathy regarding Prop 82 Preschool Initiative; from Michael Jacobowitz regarding the Parcel Tax election; from Dan Martin regarding the Parcel Tax; from Andrew Kopp regarding anti-harassment education; from Larry Sweeney regarding the Superintendent’s contract; and from Catherine Luce regarding parent involvement in the Safe Space program.
- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim reminded the public that at the last board meeting she had acknowledged that staff had moved too quickly with regards to the Safe Space Post and that the District was revising the timeline and had developed a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) sheet based on the many emails received. She said that she asked each principal to review the timeline, action plan and FAQs at their next PTA and SSC meetings and provide feedback, adding that if parents don’t hear from the principal, to please call the District Office.

She announced that the high school had a successful and positive WASC accreditation process, giving accolades to the administrative staff at the high school. The District should be notified by the end of the school year of the length of the term.

Focus #2 is available and will be featured in the next issue of the San Leandro Times; the middle schools had their first orientation on February 23, where 120 parents attended, and she attended the Chamber luncheon featuring the Mayor’s annual “State of the City” on March 2.

3) Board Committee Reports

- Communications - Mr. Cassidy reported that the committee met on February 24 and reviewed the *Focus* informational pieces, and a story board for future topics, discussed dates for Community Forums in May and June, and a Measure A Fact Sheet focusing on the music program.
- Facilities/Technology – Ms. Cutter reported that the committee met on March 2 and reviewed the Facilities Master Plan proposal which was being brought forward for consideration tonight. Heidi Finberg and President- Elect Robert Brannan of the San Leandro Chamber leant their support for the process. Ms. Cutter asked Mr. Davis, the representative to the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce Community Partners Committee, to be the liaison between the District and City. She also noted that Heidi was unaware of the District's policy regarding giving business to San Leandro vendors first.

4) Board Representatives' Reports

- Eden Area Regional Occupational Program - Mr. Richards said the committee met on March 2 and approved the 2nd Interim Budget for 2005-2006 budget. They received notification of SkillsUSA Regional Competition Results where two San Leandro High School students were awarded with medals: Luis Jimenez received a gold medal in Collision, and Daniel Guerrero received silver medal in Construction. On March 3 they met to discuss the timeline and hiring process for Cyril Bonnano, who will be retiring.

Mr. Davis requested that Consent Item 3.4-C be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

CONSENT ITEMS

General Services

1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – February 7, 2006

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

2.2-C Resolution #06-11, Week of the School Administrator

2.3-C Resolution #06-12 Authorizing Certificated Staff to Teach with a Variable Term Wavier

Educational Services

- 3.1-C Acceptance of Donations
- 3.2-C Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion for Student E26-05/06
- 3.3-C Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion for Student E27-05/06
- 3.5-C Modified Procedures Regarding Distribution of the proceeds from the Lenny Williams Concert
- 3.6-C Lincoln's Western Association of School and Colleges (WASC) Self Review Report and Action Plan as a Single School Plan
- 3.7-C Teacher Recruitment and Student Support Program (TRSSP) Grant Application

Business, Operations and Facilities

- 4.1-C Resolution #06-13 to Declare Certain Equipment Surplus and/or Obsolete
- 4.2-C Mandated Cost Contract 2006-07
- 4.3-C Award of Construction Contract for Window Replacements at John Muir Middle and Wilson, Monroe, and Garfield Elementary Schools
- 4.4-C Award of Construction Contract for McKinley Elementary School Energy Efficiency Program

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

Educational Services

- 3.4-C Recommendation from Administrative Panel for Expulsion for Student E28-05/06

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded Mrs. Hague, the Board approved to amend the rehabilitation plan for student E28-05/06 to reflect that the individual may attend Lighthouse/Independent Study for the Fall semester 2006/07 on a

suspended expulsion by a 6-1 vote. Mr. Cassidy voting no.

ACTION ITEMS

Human Resources

2.1-A 2006-07 Traditional and Year Round Student Calendar

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board approved the 2006-07 Traditional and Year Round Student Calendar by a 7-0 vote.

President Cutter was happy that the calendar was more in line with other school districts.

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-A 2004/2005 Fiscal Year Independent Audit Report

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the 2004/2005 Fiscal Year Independent Audit Report as prepared by the firm of Perry-Smith, LLP, by a 7-0 vote.

CONFERENCE ITEMS

Business, Operations and Facilities

4.1-CF Facility Contracts with Harris & Associates and WLC Architects

The Board discussed and considered approving contract services through June 2006 for Board workshops and community forums.

Mr. Glaster distributed a scope of services and fee estimate summary from Harris & Associates and WLC Architects.

To put the recommended proposal in perspective Superintendent Lim explained that the cost for the 1997 Facilities Master Plan was \$278,000 with an additional \$71,000 in 2003, for a total of \$300,000.

The Board walked through the scope of services as staff provided detailed information regarding the process for each of the four Board themes and deliverables: Educational Program Standards, Overcrowding, Modernization Scope of Costs, and Update Products and Systems Standards.

Superintendent Lim said that staff was recommending approving contract services not to exceed \$145,530 which would include proceeding with the first three Board themes and deliverables, and

holding off on Update Products and Systems Standards until after the passage of a bond.

Mr. Richards explained that the proposal would be funded out of the District Capital Facility Fund with Ms. Perry adding that the 1997 Facility Master Plan and the 2003 Master Plan Update would be the foundation for this proposal and there would be no paid duplication of work from these documents.

Trustees Davis and Heystek were interested in an actual contract with Harris & Associates and if the District had a Standards Professional Agreement. Mr. Glaster said that the proposal was a simple service agreement for time and materials for the development of the Facilities Master Plan, on a “not to exceed” basis, and was not an actual contract for construction management services to manage projects etc., adding that the approved scope of services would be attached to the professional services agreement where protections to the District would be defined. Mr. Davis asked that, in the future with similar types of requests, a copy of the Standards Professional Agreement be attached.

Because the length of the agreement was approximately forty pages long, Mrs. Cutter requested one copy of the Standards Professional Agreement, so that it would be available for future reference.

Further discussion continued around the importance of whether or not to proceed with the Update Products and System Standards theme at this time, with Mr. Heystek asking for further clarification on exactly what that theme entailed.

Representatives from Harris & Associates and WLC Architects explained that currently the District had products it was comfortable with and systems it was able to maintain; however, it is necessary from time to time to review those standards and update them. This theme would develop a timeline and process, and provide a list of key issues and goals such as energy conservation, that could affect cost modeling to ensure that developing and implementing product and system standards are kept up-to-date for future construction, when new products become available and systems are improved.

Keeping in mind the District’s goal to build and design for the future, it was the recommendation of the consultants that the Board consider including a portion of this theme with the initial proposal, which would allow the consultants to look at such key items as solar, technology, and energy conservation, so that a bond project list could be delivered by the end of the third workshop.

Mr. Cassidy asked when the Board could expect reports from each

theme. The staff explained that it would be a work in progress, with the consultants confirming that final reports of the deliverables listed in the contract would be developed and disbursed after the third workshop on April 17, and be ready by the first community forum on May 8.

Mr. Cassidy reiterated the importance of working with the City with respect to the overcrowding and available sites. Mr. Glaster said that the District had been in contact with the City and had been provided a database of all available property, adding that they were being extremely cooperative. Mr. Cassidy also suggested looking into joint use possibilities such as a performing arts theatre.

Following the discussion, Mr. Glaster suggested, as a compromise, that an amount of “not to exceed \$10,000” be incorporated into the Update Products and Systems Standards theme, so that those large ticket items such as energy conservation etc. could be addressed, with the consultants agreeing that \$10,000 would be adequate at this time.

The Board took a break at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

Following the break, Mr. Glaster reported that the \$10,000 for Update Products and Systems Standards would be disbursed between the two companies at the same percentage rate used for the other themes. WLC Architects would receive \$7,111, and Harris & Associates would receive \$2,889, making the total amount of the contact agreement \$155,530. Mr. Glaster explained, that based on the recommendation from the attorney, the District would follow a “team” concept, with the Superintendent or designee overseeing the process, but have two separate and specific agreements from each of the firms as way of holding each of them accountable.

Mrs. Hague hoped that in the area of educational program specifications, teacher input would be part of that discussion.

Additional comments included Mr. Cassidy suggesting having a “9th grade only campus” at the Burrell Field site if no other sites were available, reiterating Mrs. Hague’s point of involving teachers and union representatives in the process.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Richards the Board approved a professional services agreement for deliverables regarding Educational Program Standards, Overcrowding Assessment, Modernization Scope and Cost, and Update Products and Systems Standards with WLC Architects, in an amount not to exceed \$82,000, and with Harris & Associates, in an amount not to exceed \$74,000, for a total of, not to exceed \$156,000, by a 7-0 vote.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Ms. Perry reported that Garfield's Math and Science Faire would be on March 15 from 5:30-7 p.m., suggesting that members might attend before the Board's special workshop. She attended a state-conducted special education parent meeting, where 80 parents, who receive special services, were in attendance. A survey was distributed to parents regarding services received, parents' involvement in the IEP process, services and support provided by the District, and testing, etc. She said that she would be glad to make copies of the questionnaire for those interested. Following the review, which will take place the first week in April, the state will be making suggestions, and any corrective actions needed.

Ms. Perry toured the Electrical Apprenticeship Program on March 2, along with President Cutter, Linda Granger, and Superintendent Lim, and had information from the visit for those interested. She attended the WASC report out at San Leandro High School. Other District activities included the Career Technical Education Awards, highlighting the wide range of educational opportunities offered at the high school, reading to Monroe students as part of "Read Across America" on March 2, "Rocking Readers" awards at Roosevelt on March 3, and participating in the DECA Business Academy judging. She also attended the Chamber luncheon, "State of the City", along with Trustee Davis, Garfield Principal Jan Huls and the Superintendent.

- Mr. Heystek alerted the Board of his pending absence from the June 6, 2006, Board meeting, and the possibility of not being able to fulfill all of his Board commitments in the month of May.
- Mrs. Hague also attended the Career Technical Award ceremony. She saluted the woodshop teacher, who has really brought a lot heart to the program for example, woodshop students made furniture for a classmate whose family lost everything when their home burned. The students are also making the sets for the upcoming school musical production.
- Mrs. Cutter reported receiving a communication from the Alameda County Office of Education regarding the District's First Interim Financial Report. Superintendent Lim will be including this in her next *Confidentially Speaking*. Mrs. Cutter said that she would be out of town for a week, returning on March 15.
- Ms. Perry drew the Board's attention to the June state bond and seismic retrofit eligibility for the District, based upon all of our bond work. Assistant Superintendent added that additional language was being considered with regards to giving additional consideration for eligibility to those Districts who

already had spent money for seismic, and that the state had requested information and documents signifying our District's foresight to earthquake prevention based upon our location on the Hayward and San Andres faults.

The Board adjourned into closed session at 9:39 p.m.

The Board returned from closed session at 10:18 p.m. where President Cutter said that no action was taken.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

- **Special Meeting – March 15, 2006, 6 pm, DO**
- **Regular Meeting and Workshop, March 21, 2006**
- **Special Board Meeting: Facility Workshop – March 27, 2006, 6 pm, DO**
- Regular Meeting – April 4, 2006
- **Special Board Meeting: Facility Workshop – April 17, 2006, 6 pm, DO**
- Regular Meeting – April 18, 2006
- Regular Meeting – May 2, 2006
- **Community Forum – May 8, 2006**
- Regular Meeting – May 16, 2006
- **Community Forum – May 22, 2006**
- Regular Meeting – June 6, 2006
- **Community Forum – June 19, 2006 (tentative)**
- Regular Meeting – June 20, 2006
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ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:19 p.m. by 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hague, Clerk