

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

March 23, 2010

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on March 23, 2010, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Katz-Lacabe.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Trustee Pauline Cutter
Trustee Diana Prola
Trustee Carmen Sullivan
Trustee Hermy Almonte, Clerk
Trustee Lisa Hague, Vice President
Trustee Mike Katz-Lacabe, President
Student Board Member Steven Mills

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Trustee Morgan Mack-Rose

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Cindy Cathey, Interim Superintendent
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent
Michael Potmesil, Assistant Superintendent
Debbie Wong, Interim 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 Student Expulsions, Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Interim Superintendent, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Hiring, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – significant

exposure to litigation, Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Property(ies), and Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918(c), Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.9(b), 54956.8, and 54956.9. The closed session was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Katz-Lacabe said the Board had been in closed session where the following action was taken:

- On a motion made by Trustee Prola and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the settlement agreement for placement of a Special Education student by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.
- On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Sullivan, the Board approved the settlement agreement for placement of a second Special Education student by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Sullivan, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of March 23, 2010, by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

PRESENTATIONS

- * Representatives from the 70 member Roosevelt band performed a few short songs from the band curriculum including “*Mexican Hat Dance*,” “*Fara Shaka Fara Shaka*,” “*Polly Wolly Doodle*,” and “*Hot Cross Buns*” to say a special thank you to our school board and administrators who have shown tremendous support for the 5th grade band program. During this time of catastrophic budget cuts from the state, our district has continued to support our music program.

The students will be performing at the Band Festival on Wednesday, March 24 at San Leandro High School.

The students and staff are extremely appreciative and wanted to say a personal thank you.

- * Interim Superintendent and the Board of Education presented San Leandro High School senior Christina A. Henriquez with a Certificate of Commendation for placing first runner-up in the Veterans of Foreign Wars “Voice of Democracy” Awards ceremony held on February 5, 2010, at Mercy High School in San Francisco.

Created in 1947, the Voice of Democracy (VOD) scholarship program is an audio-essay contest for high school students in grades 9-12 that annually provides more than \$2.5 million in scholarships and incentives. In 1965 the Ladies Auxiliary Veterans of Foreign Wars began co-sponsoring the Voice of Democracy Audio/Essay Contest with the Post with great success. This year's theme was "*Does America Still Have Heroes?*"

This was the first year San Leandro High School participated in this event. Principal Linda Granger, and Student Board member Steven Mills were instrumental in bringing this scholarship opportunity to San Leandro High School students.

Upon receiving her award, Christina shared that she wrote about police, firefighters, teachers and soldiers being today's heroes.

- * March 22 is World Water Day, an initiative started by the United Nations to give attention to the importance of sustaining freshwater resources on a global level. This year, the focus is on water quality and its importance. Energy Recovery Inc (ERI), a local clean technology provider, participated in the celebration by holding a poster and essay contest for school children in the San Leandro community. The contest was designed to help children become aware of water issues around the world and to engage students in World Water Day by allowing a creative outlet to share ideas. The theme for the contest was "The Importance of Water." There were three categories of entries: grades 1-3 poster, grades 4-6 poster, grades 7-8 essay. Judging took place on March 16 with representatives from ERI and the school district serving on the judging panel. At the San Leandro Unified School District Board Meeting, ERI rewarded students and staff for their outstanding effort.

Staff of the After School Education and Safety (ASES) Program facilitated significant student participation in the contest. As such, the District's partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Leandro contributed to making the contest a success.

As each of the students were recognized, a picture of their drawing was displayed on the screen in the City Council Chambers.

World Water Day Award Winners:

Grades 1-3--- Poster Contest

1st Prize: Jose F Guevara 3rd Grade from Wilson

2nd Prize: Josue Campos 2nd Grade from Monroe
2nd Prize: Tasja Peterson 3rd Grade from Garfield
3rd Prize: Javere Fuqua 1st Grade from Wilson

Grades 4-6 --- Poster Contest

1st Prize: Jed Caraan 5th Grade from Monroe Elementary
2nd Prize: Neha Dhankhar 5th Grade from Jefferson Elementary
3rd Prize: Valarie Vuong 5th Grade from Monroe Elementary

Grades 7-8 --- Essay Contest

1st Prize: Joshua Tolibas 7th Grade from John Muir Middle School
2nd Prize: Andy Ng 7th Grade from John Muir Middle School
3rd Prize: Kenneth Tran 7th Grade from John Muir Middle School

Grand Prize of \$500 to: Monroe Elementary

Energy Recovery, Inc. (NASDAQ:ERII) designs and develops energy recovery devices that help make desalination affordable by significantly reducing energy consumption. For more information about Energy Recovery, Inc. please visit www.energyrecovery.com.

- * Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Song Chin-Bendib presented the 2009-2010 Second Interim Report which includes Fiscal Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

Assistant Superintendent Chin-Bendib explained that the 2009-10 Second Interim Report is the financial update of the 2009-10 First Interim report which was approved by the Board on December 15, 2009, adding that in every interim report filed, a school district must present a positive fund balance for the current and two subsequent fiscal years.

Ms. Chin-Bendib reported that the 2009-10 Second Interim Report had been completed and the ending Fund Balances after designations for 2009-10 shows positive fund balances for the current and subsequent two fiscal years. The ending balances include Tier III Flexibility funds that have been swept/approved by the Board and reflect full restoration of the District's 3% reserve requirement. Any unswept or unapproved funds have been accounted for in a separate account and are not included in the balances.

Assistant Superintendent Chin-Bendib walked the Board through various charts depicting how the District generates revenue and how the monies are spent. A snapshot of all other funds was also shared, noting that included in this year's report, was a complete description of each category and explanation of how the funds can be spent.

Some highlights that have been incorporated into the 2009-2010 Second Interim to balance the budget included:

2009-2010

1. Unspent carryover funds or savings from 2008-2009 as follows:

- Athletics \$25,320
- Legal fees 206,877
- Server replacement 80,032

2. Adult Education and Deferred Maintenance swept 2008-2009 ending balances:

- Adult Education 1,000,000
- Deferred Maintenance 243,000

2010-2011 & 2011-2012

1. February 23, 2010, Board approved increasing K-3 class sizes from 24:1 to 30:1
2. Ongoing operational costs for the San Leandro High School Fred Korematsu Campus in the amount of \$304,500

The Board posed some questions for clarification and comments which were addressed by staff.

The Board felt that the addition of detailed descriptions of other funds was very helpful and thanked staff for the thorough and clear presentation.

ACTION ITEM

Business Operations

- 4.1-A Second Interim Report Fiscal Year 2009-2010
Approve the Second Interim Report Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Sullivan, the Board approved the Second Interim Report Fiscal Year 2009-2010 by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Carol Delton, District speech therapist and representing the San Leandro Teachers' Association on budget issues, addressed the Board regarding budget cuts. Ms. Delton urged the Board to begin seriously looking at

reorganizing how the District does business and consider the suggestions by the Board such as consolidating the San Leandro Adult School with an Adult School in a neighboring district, and generating more financial costs for the athletic program through community donations. Other considerations suggested by Ms. Delton included consolidating the summer school with other districts, sale of property and other sources, utility usage, and maintenance and facilities costs at each school building.

- Marianne Dilworth, a Roosevelt Elementary School District parent, addressed the Board regarding preserving staggered reading in grades 1-3. Ms. Dilworth stated that she has been circulating a petition urging the Board and District officials to consider implementing the Program Improvement requirements in a modified staggered reading program, citing that small group instruction benefits all students and San Leandro will lose this benefit if class sizes are increased and staggered reading is eliminated. Ms. Dilworth asked that copies of the petition, with signatures of approximately 200 parents and teachers, be distributed to the Board, adding that she hoped that the decision regarding staggered reading would be based on best practices and solid educational research.

Following Ms. Dilworth's comments, Trustee Cutter announced that Board would be discussing staggered reading at a special Board meeting scheduled for March 30.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Almonte reported receipt of the following email from March 2, 2010, through March 22, 2010: From Eva Caraher regarding Special Education Department changes; from Stephen Cassidy regarding election results for Burlingame School District election, March 2, 2010; from Robin James regarding Friday night at Drakes Brewing to support Bancroft Middle School; from Susan Dent regarding Roosevelt Elementary School spring concert; from Katie Eagan & Jeff Phillips regarding staggered reading; from Sarah Del Grande regarding K-3 Education cuts; from Marek Janko regarding P.E.; from Alameda County Office of Education regarding VIP reception – before Rosa Parks, there was Claudette Colvin, and Holiday Events Honoring Claudette Colvin; from Katherine Murray regarding P.E. cuts; from Aurora Sanchez Perez regarding budget decisions; from Yvonne Day regarding creative scheduling; from Antonia Mittelstedt regarding please consider; from Jon Sherr regarding important RIF message; from Marshall Lamm regarding Music in Schools Today (MUST) participates in \$1.2 million DOE Project; from Dan Martin regarding electronic recycling fundraiser for Bancroft Musical Theatre; from Debbie Benyahia regarding major changes to AC Transit service effective March 28th; and from Melinda Rieboldt regarding Broadmoor Association Beacon Newsletter.

2) Student Board Member Report - Student Board Member Steven Mills updated the Board on the activities at San Leandro High School.

Highlights included:

- Season of Service “Change for Change” was two weeks ago. Different colored balloons were sold and the proceeds went towards a charity that that balloon represented
- Last week was “Battle of the Sexes.” All students participated in dress-up days and games
- Prom “kickoff” is being moved from April 2 to April 14 and will be held outside. Radio station WiLD 94.9, limousine companies and Men’s Warehouse are among some of the businesses that have been invited to come
- March 22, ASB and the school administration met with 8th Grade parents to answer any questions they may have
- March 26 Latinos Unidos is sponsoring Noche de Carnaval
- ASB continues to post signs encouraging students to do their best on the STAR test
- Unity Day, originally scheduled for April 14, will be postponed to a later date

3) Union Representative Reports

- Mark Hamilton, on behalf of the San Leandro Teachers’ Association (SLTA), reported that a tentative agreement has been signed between SLTA and the District, adding that SLTA will be seeking ratification at the sites on Friday and Monday. Mr. Hamilton stated that SLTA appreciated and thanked the staff and Board for being cooperative and working with them, adding that SLTA is looking to contribute and participate in solving the issues that are facing the Board and the District.

4) Interim Superintendent’s Report – Interim Superintendent Cindy Cathey welcomed Debbie Wong to the District as the Interim Superintendent of Educational Services.

Interim Superintendent Cathey provided a brief update regarding the work related to the implementation of the Program Improvement (PI) Plan Addendum, stating that secondary staff has been working expeditiously towards implementation by meeting with Mike Walbridge, Director of Curriculum and Instruction with regards to defining what tiered intervention will look like across the District, focusing particularly on the secondary schools because of the impact to the master schedule, along with the training related to the use of the core instructional materials. Ms. Cathey said that this continues to be a work in progress and the Board

will be receiving a more formal presentation.

The Interim Superintendent also announced the following upcoming events:

- March 24 Band festival, San Leandro High School
- March 25 Orchestra Festival, San Leandro High School
- March 26 CEBAS II (Creating Equitable Bay Area Schools) at the Alameda County Office of Education
- April 1 San Leandro High School Library Dedication, 3:30 p.m.
- March 1- April 23 Physical Fitness Testing window
- March 23- April 23 California Healthy Kids Survey, required to administer every other year will be given to students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11.

5) Board Committee Reports

- Communication/Advocacy/City/District Liaison – Trustee Katz-Lacabe reported that the City/District Liaison committee met on March 18. The City and District provided updates on the budget, facilities and Measure B projects. The committee discussed potential Ballot Measures, noting that the City is considering looking at a quarter cent sales tax revenue measure and the District considering a possible facilities bond for the November ballot.
- Facilities/Technology – Trustee Cutter reported that the committee met on March 11 and discussed Change Order #2 to the Zolman Construction contract for the San Leandro High School, Amendment #2 to the Jerome Zalinski Inspector of Record Professional Services contract for Bancroft Middle School, Amendment #3 to the WLC Architects Design Services contract for the Arts Education Center, Change Order #1 to the IMR Construction Contract for Bancroft Middle School Heating & Roofing Project and construction contract with West Coast Contractors, Inc. for the Wilson Elementary School Heating and Roofing Project which are being brought forward to the Board for consideration tonight. The committee also discussed the dedication plaque for the San Leandro High School Fred Korematsu Campus, adding that a prototype to be used for all of the dedication plaques is in place.
- Finance – Trustee Hague reported that the committee met on March 17 and discussed the Second Interim Report and previewed some of the presentation materials.

5) Board Representatives' Reports

- Mid-Alameda County Special Education Local Plan Area (MACSELPA) – Trustee Hague reported that the committee met on March 8, 2010, and looked over at the budgets for the SELPA, adding that it was noted by other districts that San Leandro Unified’s encroachment in Special Education was significantly less than the other districts.

CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Sullivan asked that 1.3-C Approval of Board Minutes – February 23, 2010, and 1.6-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 11, 2010, be pulled from the consent calendar.

General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – January 26, 2010
- 1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – February 9, 2010
- 1.4-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 4, 2010
- 1.5-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 9, 2010

Human Resources

- 2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Educational Services

- 3.1-C Acceptance of Donations
- 3.2-C Non-Public School Contracts
- 3.3-C Recommendation for Readmission from Expulsion for student E16/08/09 Who has Satisfactorily Completed the Terms of his/her Rehabilitation Plan and is Eligible to Return to a Comprehensive Program
- 3.4-C Recommendation to terminate expulsion order for student E01-09/10 who has moved out of the country and is at least eighteen years of age

Following approval of the consent items, it was noted that this item

should have been tabled and that the Board needed to take a vote to table it.

On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Sullivan, the Board amended the vote, and retroactively tabled the recommendation to terminate expulsion order for student E01-09/10 by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

- 3.5-C Memorandum of Understanding between the San Leandro Unified School District and Girls Incorporated of Alameda County for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 School Years for San Leandro High School
- 3.6-C Memorandum of Understanding between the San Leandro Unified School District and Boys and Girls Club of San Leandro for the 2009-2010 School Year for Lincoln High School

Business Operations

- 4.1-C Ratification of Payroll for February 2010
- 4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants
- 4.3-C Adopt Resolution #10-21 to declare certain equipment surplus and/or obsolete due to the age and condition of the designated equipment

Facilities and Construction

- 5.1-C Change Order #2 to the Zolman Construction Contract for the San Leandro High School Arts Education Center Project
- 5.2-C Amendment #2 to the Jerome Zalinski Inspector of Record Professional Services Contract for Bancroft Middle School Heating & Roofing Project
- 5.3-C Amendment #3 to the WLC Architects Design Services Contract for the Arts Education Center
- 5.4-C Change Order #01 to the IMR Construction Contract for Bancroft Middle School Heating & Roofing Project
- 5.5-C Construction Contract with West Coast Contractors, Inc. for the Wilson Elementary School Heating & Roofing Project
- 5.6-C Construction Contract with Ralf Larsen & Sons for the John Muir

Middle School Heating & Roofing Project

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the remaining consent items by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

General Services

1.3-C Approval of Board Minutes – February 23, 2010

Trustee Sullivan clarified that on page six of the minutes the wording should reflect that the Board approved “eliminating” (and not “reducing”) the elementary school library/media paraeducators.

Trustee Cutter felt that “eliminating” may not be the correct word, in light of the fact that it doesn’t reflect the possibility that these positions may not be eliminated.

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the Board minutes of February 23, 2010, as amended, by a 5-1 vote. Trustee Cutter voting no and Trustee Mack-Rose absent.

1.6-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 11, 2010

Trustee Sullivan asked that the word “and” following PhD be changed to “in” Nursing Program, and that her comment “will not need to pay anything for the first year” be struck from page three of the minutes.

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board approved the Board minutes of March 11, 2010, as amended, by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

ACTION ITEM

Business, Operations

4.2-A Resolution #10-20 Designating Representatives with the Office of Public School Construction (OPSE) and the State Allocation Board (SAB)

On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board adopted Resolution #10-20 Designating Representatives with the Office of Public School Construction (OPSE) and the State Allocation Board (SAB) by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was

absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Business, Operations

4.1-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$7,701,274.67 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

The Board welcomed Debbie Wong as the Interim Superintendent of Educational Services, adding that it was wonderful to have her back in the District.

- Trustee Cutter commented on the carry over for athletics. Trustee Cutter also attended the very popular and successful Coaches' Crab Feed benefiting athletics.
- Trustee Sullivan asked for and received consensus to have the parent equity teams and site administrators provide an update to the Board on the continuing work that is being done through parent partnerships to help close the achievement gap and ensure the academic success of all students.

Trustee Sullivan asked for and received consensus to have Teneh Weller, High Expectations Parental Services, along with District parents provide an update on the comprehensive parent leadership classes that are offered to parents of students attending the eight elementary schools.

- Trustee Almonte appreciated the Board and Interim Superintendent for recognizing San Leandro High School senior Christina Henrique for placing first runner-up in the Veterans for Foreign Wars "Voice of Democracy" Awards ceremony.
- Trustee Hague also attended the Coaches' Crab Feed, commenting that it was nice to see the community support for athletics.

Trustee Hague reported that A Taste of Jazz, which took place last week, was a wonderful event benefiting the San Leandro High School Band programs and Bancroft Jazz Band.

Trustee Hague encouraged everyone to attend the music festivals on March 24 and 25 and experience these spectacular events.

- Trustee Prola was happy to report that the middle schools would not be losing their SRO officers.

Trustee Prola attended the vocal music performance at Roosevelt Elementary school, led by Susan Dent. Every student, with the exception of kindergarten, performed, and over 200 parents were in attendance.

Trustee Prola expressed how proud she is that San Leandro Unified still has a balanced budget and gave accolades to Assistant Superintendent Song Chin-Bendib and her staff for all of their work.

Trustee Prola will be attending the first session of the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Masters and Governance Training on Friday, March 26.

Trustee Prola reported that she spoke with the principal at Jefferson and discussed Jefferson's Year Four of Program Improvement restructuring, noting that Mr. Aurelio expressed that almost all of his staff support the plan.

Trustee Prola commented and distributed a copy of an article that appeared in the San Leandro Times regarding an initiative that would amend the state constitution to make it much easier to pass parcel taxes for education. Trustee Prola explained that members of Californians for Improved School Funding hope to get the Local Control of Local Classrooms Funding Act on the state ballot in November which would amend the state constitution by lowering the amount of votes required to pass a school parcel tax from two-thirds to 55 percent. In addition, if passed, it prohibits the state from taking or borrowing the revenue generated by the parcel tax, limits the parcel tax to not exceed \$250, and exempts seniors. Trustee Prola indicated that 694,354 signatures are needed by May 1 to place it on the November ballot.

Trustee Prola asked and received consensus to have the Board bring a Resolution in support of reducing the threshold of parcel taxes from two-thirds to 55 percent forward for consideration at the next Board meeting, with Trustee Katz-Lacabe indicating that he has seen language for the resolution and would forward it to the committee to develop. In addition, Trustee Katz-Lacabe mentioned that he has petition forms and would send a copy to Trustee Prola. Trustee Katz-Lacabe also noted that Connell Lindh, the consultant who assisted the District with our Measure B bond measure, has been instrumental in this effort.

- Trustee Katz-Lacabe commented on the successful fundraisers that took place recently and reported that McKinley Elementary Schools' silent auction and festival took place last weekend.

Following Board member comments, The Board adjourned into closed session at 8:46 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

Regular Meeting – April 20, 2010

Regular Meeting – May 4, 2010

Regular Meeting – May 18, 2010

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, June 2, 2010

Regular Meeting – June 15, 2009

Special Meeting – June 29, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

The Board returned from closed session at 9:14 p.m. where no reportable action was taken.

On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m. by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Mack-Rose was absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Hermey Almonte, Clerk