

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

April 3, 2007

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on April 3, 2007, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Rick Richards.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Byron Isaac, 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 6:05 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Student Expulsions, Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Superintendent's Evaluation, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – significant exposure to litigation, Public Employee Appointment – Title: Director of Special Education, Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Property(ies), and Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Education Code Section 35146 and 48918(c), Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.(b), 54956.8, and 54956.9.

President Richards noted that the Board would be voting on a contract to purchase property in open session this evening.

The closed session was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Susanne Wong, San Leandro Adult School Principal. President Richards said the Board had been in closed session and had taken the following action:

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Mr. Cassidy, the Board appointed Katherine Piccus as Director of Special Education by a 7-0 vote.
- On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the District's purchase of land located at 13900 E. 14th Street, in the amount of \$6.2 million by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Perry recused herself from the vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of April 3, 2007, by a 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATIONS

- * Certificates of Commendation for the California State Distribution Education Clubs of America (DECA) Career Development Conference Winners:

Food Marketing Management Level – Top 8

- Kim Dela Cruz
- Dennis Ho

Buying and Merchandising Team Decision – Top 8

- Sophie Grajeda
- Juan Lara-Diaz

Business and Finance Marketing Research Paper – Top 8

- Dennis Ho
- Forest Knowland
- Zakaria Alsaidi

- * Certificate of Commendation was presented to San Leandro Adult School Principal Susanne Wong for being chosen by the California Council for Adult Education (CCAEE) to receive the Award of Merit.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Peter Ambrosia addressed the Board on Beautification Day Reform. He asked the Board to continue Beautification Day, encouraging them to listen to the ideas and attitudes of the volunteer community. He said that he had a position paper that he would like the Board and staff to consider as a first step in this process, noting that he would be happy to forward a copy to the Board members and staff.
- Several parents from Washington and Roosevelt Elementary schools voiced concerns or expressed support of the District's recent decision to collapse one kindergarten class at Roosevelt Elementary for the 2007-2008 school year.

Rich Fishbaugh, Litna Zuber, Deborah Cox, Naissa Foster, Alan Koizumi, Jeni Engler, Patti Fishbaugh, Yokia Mason, Deborah Daily, and Michael Fitting felt that the decision had been made too hastily and asked that the Board to reconsider decreasing the size of a kindergarten class at Roosevelt and work together cooperatively, and gradually make the change, adding that they felt if this change was implemented parents would leave the District.

Charles Lowder, Daniela Leamer, Katherine Gholson, Andrew Maruoka, Whitney Walker, spoke in support of the decision, with Morgan Mack-Rose feeling that years of an easily manipulated system had resulted in a de facto segregation of our north area schools. They encouraged the board to take those courageous steps to remedy the inequitable transfer policy and find solutions that would draw the community to Washington and reinvent their image so that every child in San Leandro could have the best and equal chance to "be their best."

Juan Gonzalez III summed up the controversy by indicating that a lack of communication was the reason for the community's frustration with regards to the transfer policy and Beautification Day. He encouraged the Board to increase communication and support parent involvement and what they have to offer the District.

Mr. Richards thanked the community for sharing their concerns.

Following the comments, Superintendent Lim reiterated how much she appreciated the feedback received and responded to some of the comments including:

- A fact sheet was being created for the website to address questions that have surfaced.

- There was existing space for an additional kindergarten class at Washington next year without the need for additional portables.
- Contrary to public opinion this was not a “new” transfer policy, but rather a current “neighborhood school policy that has been in the District for sometime; however the policy had not been implemented consistently across the District.
- The Superintendent has been in discussions with Rose Johnson, Executive Director, Davis Street Family Resource Center to explore childcare options.
- The District’s decision was not about closing a kindergarten class, but about projecting enrollment, adding that if it was determined by verification of addresses that families lived within the area of any of our neighborhood schools, and a class needed to be added, the District would do so.

Ms. Lim thanked the members of the audience, stating that she takes their questions and concerns to heart and that the District would continue to make sure that questions and concerns are addressed thoroughly, in a timely manner, and through the proper communication.

* Assessment Data Presentation

Daniel Chaja, Assistant Director of Research and Program Evaluation, presented information related to the state’s release of the Academic Performance Index which included school growth targets, state rankings, and similar schools ranking. Changes noted to the Academic Performance Index (API) Report Cycle included:

- Adding more science assessment (Grade 8 and Grade 10 Life Science)
- Adjust the weights of existing assessments
- Minor revision of the Assignment of 200 Policy (grades 8-11)
- Excluding English Learners who have been in the United States for less than 12 months from API calculation for district, school, and subgroup
- Students in Grade 12 taking and passing CAHSEE in the July prior to graduation to be counted in the API calculation
- Grade 7 students may take the California Standards Test (CST) for Algebra I

Unfortunately, a technical problem occurred during the presentation and Mr. Chaja was unable to share the District benchmark assessments results and changes that have taken place to the district’s assessment system. Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Cindy Cathey said that he would come back towards the end of the year with an update on a full year of benchmark assessments.

The Board asked clarifying questions with regards to the information presented including similar school rankings, and meeting API targets, noting that they would prefer if the charts were larger for easier reading. Mr. Chaja said that he would be glad to email the charts to the Board.

REPORTS
8:00 pm Time
Specific

Student Representatives' Reports – Rachel Whyte, San Leandro High School student representative, updated the Board on activities at the high school. The Robotics Club entered their first competition and earned “Rookie of the Year” in Davis. Seniors took their panoramic picture today. *Grease* rehearsals are well underway. Performances will be April 20-23, 26-28. Honor Roll recognition for students receiving a 3.0 or higher will be Thursday with an ice cream social occurring during 3rd and 4th block. Invitations have been sent out. ASB is hosting a spring egg hunt during lunch and selling balloons on Friday. The school will be celebrating Earth Day, by giving classes and organizations an opportunity to purchase trees that will be planted on the campus during a tree planting ceremony on April 20 from 11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The trees will not only beautify the campus but help the environment. Juniors & Seniors will be attending – *Every 15 Minutes* Program on May 10 and 11.

Youth Advisory Commission: Rachel reported that they are currently working on the end of the year ceremonies, recruitment and the nomination process for next year.

The Board took a break at 9:12 p.m. and reconvened at 9:17 p.m.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Perry reported receipt of the following emails from San Leandro Unified School District Employee Personnel Number PSL #3911; from Yvonne Day regarding Safe Schools Poster and E-New SLCAN/SLCAN screens the Ground Truth this Thursday; from Morgan Mack-Rose regarding closing a “K” at Roosevelt, and from Jeni Engler regarding the issues at Roosevelt.
- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim announced that a District team would be attending a CTE workshop offered by the Office of Public Schools Construction in Santa Clara. She reported that contrary to what was reported at a previous Board meeting, there was money available to fund the Athletic program next year. She shared a spreadsheet with the Board, adding that Madeline Gabel, Director of Business Services, would be meeting with the high school principal to set up the budget, noting that a system problem was the reason for the discrepancies.

Mrs. Hague was interested in how the allocation of the athletic budget at the middle schools is formulated and why there was a significant difference between the two sites. Mr. Cassidy felt that it would be very helpful if San Leandro High School coaches, parents, and Boosters' Club received an updated and a copy of the spreadsheet.

A draft of the 2007/2008 Board meeting dates was distributed. The Board was asked to review the calendar and provided feedback so that action could be taken at the April 17 Board meeting. The Superintendent noted that the shaded areas were placeholder meeting dates.

Reflecting back to comments made by the parents earlier, Ms. Lim said that she has learned a lot from Rose Johnson, reiterating that the District would be working diligently with the community and asking Danny Hillman, Grant Coordinator for assistance. Therefore, she announced that at the Special Board meeting on Thursday, April 12, childcare would be added to the agenda.

3) Board Committee Reports

- Curriculum - Mrs. Hague reported that the committee met on March 21 and received an update on the PE waiver. They discussed Garfield year around school, middle school program offerings, block schedule and homework survey. Tonight, the committee is bringing forward for Board consideration, K-8 Instruction Materials for the After School Education Safety (ASES) Program and the K-8 Instructional Materials for the Hourly After School Academic Intervention Programs. The next meeting will be April 30.
- Facilities/Technology - Mrs. Cutter reported that the committee met on March 15 and received a presentation of the hybrid model Project Stabilization Agreement (PSA, formerly referred to as PLA, or Project Labor Agreement). They continued their discussion and reviewed the second draft of the "Thank you San Leandro" Measure B signage and the Measure B Technical Support Team work assignments and organizational chart. They are working on planning the Board Workshop on Measure B Projects Master Schedule. They continued their discussion on a revised format for agenda items as it applies to potential change orders etc. At their next meeting on April 12, 8:30 a.m., they will be reviewing the Measure B contracts.
- Policy - Ms. Perry reported that the committee met on March 29 and the Board will receive for information tonight the revisions to the AR 5117.1 Inter District Transfers. They also reviewed the Safe Schools' Poster and offered feedback for a more diverse poster than the one

proposed.

4) Board Representatives' Reports

- Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco Education – Mrs. Cutter reported that the committee met on March 22 and looked at the healthy kids report previously reviewed by the Board and discussed the curriculum needed to support the goals of the findings. The agencies gave their reports. It was noted that “bullying” needed to be addressed earlier in a child’s development and a PowerPoint presentation is being developed to share with pre-schools in the area.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Richards noted that based on an email received from Trustee Katz, several corrections had been made on information in the Board packet and members had received copies of the revised backup.

The following items were requested to be removed from the Consent Calendar:

- 3.2-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E19-06/07 (requested by Mrs. Hague)
- 1.1-C and 1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes for March 20, 2007, and March 27, 2007 (requested by Ms. Perry)
- 3.12-C After School Education Safety (ASES) Program Memorandum of Understanding Boys and Girls Club (requested by Mr. Cassidy)

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Educational Services

3.1-C Acceptance of Donations

3.3-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E22-06/07

3.4-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E23-06/07

3.5-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E24-06/07

- 3.6-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E24-06/07
- 3.7-C Resolution #07-12 Mid Alameda County Special Education Local Plan
- 3.8-C K-8 Instructional Materials for the After School Education Safety (ASES) Program
- 3.9-C K-8 Instructional Materials for the Hourly After School Academic Intervention Programs
- 3.10-C Proposed Site Discretionary Block Grant Fund for Roosevelt Elementary School

Business, Operations and Facilities

- 4.1-C Intra-Budget Transfers
- 4.2-C Resolution #07-10 to Declare Certain Equipment Surplus
- 4.3-C Independent Auditor Contract Renewal

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

General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 20, 2007

Trustee Perry noted two corrections on page 14, second paragraph: Her name should read Ms Perry, and the name of the representative from Pete Stark's office was Jeff Hild, not Jeff Hill.

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the minutes from the March 20, 2007, Board meeting, as amended by a 7-0 vote.

1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 27, 2007

Trustee Perry said that she wanted the minutes to reflect on page 3 that she had recused herself from the Board meeting at 6:10 p.m.

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board approved the minutes from the Special Board meeting on March 27, 2007, as amended, by a 7-0 vote.

Educational Services

3.2-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E19-06/07

Mrs. Hague wanted it noted she was not in concurrence with the proposed recommendation. Mr. Cassidy believed that the proposed punishment was insufficient for the offense committed by the student.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Cutter, the Board did not pass the Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E9-06/07 by a 3-4 vote. Trustees Perry, Davis, Cutter voting yes; and Trustees Cassidy, Hague, Katz, Richards voting no.

Later on, before proceeding to the Conference Items, Mrs. Cutter raised concern that because the Board did not approve the recommendation, the student was not expelled and thus she would like to revise the motion.

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board approved the Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Student E19-06/07 with the understanding that the Board wishes to remove the suspended expulsion for this semester by a 7-0 vote.

3.12-C After School Education Safety (ASES) Program Memorandum of Understanding Boys' and Girls' Club

Mr. Cassidy was interested on how the students would be transported to the Boys' and Girls' club. Assistant Superintendent Cathey explained that the After School Education and Safety (ASES) program MOU relates to McKinley Elementary School only, whereby the Boys' and Girls' Club will transport approximately 80 students in grades 1-5 to participate in the program at their facilities through the end of the school year, noting that at this time the Boys' and Girls' Club does not have the capacity to expand the program and provide services at the school site. With regards to after school programs at the other four sites, Ms. Cathey said that there is a program that is staffed by the City.

Responding to Ms. Perry's concern regarding the insurance, it was confirmed that the agreement was reviewed by legal counsel and Mr. Glaster.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board approved the After School Education Safety (ASES) Program Memorandum of Understanding Boys' and Girls' Club by a 7-0 vote.

Human Resources

2.1-CF Restructuring of Human Resources Department

The Board discussed and considered approving the restructuring of the Human Resources Department.

Responding to Mr. Katz's questions, Superintendent Lim explained that staff was recommending a restructuring and upgrade for the two positions, which would enhance department efficiency and provide the level of administrative support needed and would be funded out of the General Fund. The Superintendent also distributed the job description for the Human Resources administrative assistant position referred to in the cover sheet.

Mr. Issac provided further explanation for the need to restructure the department, stating that because he had determined that the administrative assistant was working out of her job classification and thus recommending that some of those duties be removed to reflect the duties listed in her job description. This action will enable the administrative assistant to align her duties with her job description and provide a higher level of administrative support. The Board asked clarifying questions regarding the process followed, which staff confirmed that Mr. Issac had met with CSEA and the agreement received their support.

Mr. Katz and Mr. Cassidy were concerned about the District's spending priorities, suggesting that there be a plan in place that addresses where the District's greatest needs are.

Ms. Perry voiced concern about adding the increased responsibility of credentialing to the Personnel Secretary I position and the impact on BTSA for example. Mr. Issac stated that this would be a gradual transition, and that if it became necessary, some of the duties would return to the administrative assistant position.

The Superintendent stressed how essential cross training was to this department and having the team share in the duties that needed to

be done was part of the transition plan.

Ms. Cathey felt that the restructuring strengthened the relationship between both the Human Resources and Educational Services departments, ensuring that no one “falls through the cracks”.

Mrs. Cutter asked to have this item brought back so that all of the questions and concerns could be addressed. The Superintendent preferred to continue with the discussion and/or have the Board direct staff on what questions needed to be answered.

Mrs. Hague asked how common it was to have an administrative assistant or secretary taking notes in negotiations. Bryon felt that it would be critical this year because of having to negotiate three contracts.

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded Mrs. Cutter the Board approved the restructuring of the Human Resources Department as presented by a 6-1 vote. Trustee Cutter voting no.

Following the vote, Ms. Perry requested that staff provide the Board with an update in three-six months on how the restructuring is functioning.

Business Operations

4.1-CF Resolution #07-11, Rendering the General Plan Conformity Finding of the City of San Leandro Planning Commission Inapplicable to the Site Acquisition for the San Leandro High School Ninth Grade Campus

The Board discussed and considered adopting Resolution #07-11, Rendering the General Plan Conformity Finding of the City of San Leandro Planning Commission Inapplicable to the Site Acquisition for the San Leandro High School Ninth Grade Campus.

Mr. Davis noted how surprised he was that this was taken to the City Planning Commission in the first place, sharing some insight to the General Plan.

Mr. Richards noted that on page two of the Resolution, it should read **“certify** (not certified) that this Resolution...”

Mr. Katz noted that the City staff report actually indicated that they recommended that “the Planning Commission finds that the proposed acquisition of the subject property is in conformance with the General Plan”, applauding the City staff and two members of the Commission, including one former school Board member, who agreed with that assessment.

Mrs. Cutter found it enlightening reading in today’s Daily Review City Community Development Director Hanson Hom’s explanation of the process.

Mr. Cassidy said that the lesson for the future is to “keep everyone in the loop” particularly in light of the District’s involvement with the City’s Transit-Oriented Development Strategy that is occurring.

On a motion made by Mr. Cassidy and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board adopted Resolution #07-11, Resolution #07-11, Rendering the General Plan Conformity Finding of the City of San Leandro Planning Commission Inapplicable to the Site Acquisition for the San Leandro High School Ninth Grade Campus by a 6-0 vote. Trustee Perry recused herself from the vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Educational Services

3.1-I AR 5117.1 Inter-District Transfers

The Board received for information the revisions to AR 5117.1 Inter District Transfers as submitted.

Trustee Perry explained to Mrs. Hague that the “Gray Area” of the City was historically an area where students who lived in that area had the option of attending either San Leandro or San Lorezno Unified School Districts.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Mr. Katz attended the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation dinner where the cast from *Grease* performed four musical selections. He was looking forward to seeing the actual performance.
- Mrs. Hague noted that she also saw the preview of *Grease* at the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation dinner. She also attended the All City Band performance.
- Mr. Cassidy said that he would not be at the May 15 Board meeting. He noted that the City/District Liaison Committee was scheduled for April 19. Unfortunately it conflicted with Mr. Davis’ and his schedule; however, he felt that the meeting should move ahead, with Mr. Richards indicating that he already had volunteers to attend the meeting. Mr. Cassidy said that the Joint City/District Council meeting would be scheduled for sometime in June.

He also reported meeting with the Mayor of Hayward, who requested information regarding the District’s residency policy and procedures, adding that he forwarded a copy of our residency verification packet to him.

Mr. Cassidy said that he had learned a lot from the comments made by the community tonight, bringing to the light the importance of involving the community in the process with regards to childcare and placement of siblings, etc.

- Ms. Perry announced that she had been elected to the CSBA Delegate Assembly and would be attending the meeting in May which will focus on the 23 Studies on Adequacy of Funding. She reminded the Board that Jeff Hild from Pete Stark’s office would be meeting with the Board on April 12 at

3:15 p.m. for a Special Board meeting. She asked that members let her know if they would be able to attend. The agenda will included a discussion around Special Education, NCLB, adequacy of funding, and childcare. Katherine Piccus, Co-Director of Special Education, and Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services will be attending. Mr. Cassidy asked that funding opportunities for Measure B projects be included on the agenda.

Ms. Perry also reported attending, along with Mr. Richards, the All District Orchestra Festival. She attended the Roosevelt Variety Show where over 70 students participated, the Roosevelt PTA Founders' Day Celebration, and the Wilson Elementary School Multi-Cultural Festival noting that over 500 people were in attendance.

- Mr. Davis thanked the Superintendent for including the minutes of the Conceptual Design Team meetings in the *Confidentially Speaking* (CS); however, wondered why it was included in the confidential section and not the non-confidential section. He was concerned about the number staff members assigned to teams and not attending the meetings. Superintendent Lim said she would look into his concern and added that the minutes from those meeting would be posted on the website so in fact should appear on the non-confidential side of the CS.
- Mr. Katz congratulated Bancroft Middle School student Johnneson Mymala who placed 11th in the Geography B on March 30.
- Responding to Mrs. Cutter, Mr. Richards said that he would like to have all feedback regarding the 2007/2008 Board meeting calendar as soon as possible, so that the Board could take action at the April 17 Board meeting.

Mrs. Cutter was very disheartened by the discord that has developed between Washington and Roosevelt Elementary Schools with regards to the District's proposal to collapse a kindergarten class at Roosevelt, stressing the importance of providing opportunities and equity for all students. She said that she forwarded some related questions to the Superintendent which will be addressed in the next CS to further explain the basis for the decision, reminding everyone that "schools are as good as their parents".

- Mr. Richards reported that Mr. Katz would be attending the City/District Liaison Committee meeting, as the third member. He noted that Ms. Perry had also shown an interest; however, because Mr. Katz had never attended before, he felt it would be a great opportunity for him.

He said that on April 4 he and the Superintendent would be meeting with Mayor Santos and City Manager John Jermanis to begin "building those

bridges” with the City. He also announced the open houses for John Muir Bancroft and Lincoln, on April 4.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

- Regular Meeting – April 17, 2007
- Regular Meeting – May 1, 2007
- Regular Meeting – May 15, 2007
- Regular Meeting – June 5, 2007
- Regular Meeting – June 19, 2007

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mr. Davis, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Perry, Clerk