

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

April 18, 2006

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on April 18, 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  
Mr. Stephen Cassidy, Vice President  
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**

At 6:08 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Student Expulsions, Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Superintendent's Evaluation and Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918(c), and Government Code Section 54957. The closed session was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:20 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Cyril Bonnano, Superintendent of Eden Area Regional

Occupational Program (ROP). President Cutter said the Board had been in closed session where the following action was taken:

- On a motion made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Richards, the Board approved to non-reelect Employee #225 for the 2006-2007 school year by a 7-0 vote.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of April 18, 2006, with the exception of Action Item 2.1-A, Resolution #06-18, Reduce Classified Services Due to Lack of Funds, by a 7-0 vote.

**REPORTS** Student Representatives' Reports – There was no report.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- \* President Cutter and Trustee Richards presented a Certificate of Commendation to Amy Fong, Eden Area Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Student of the Month for April 2006 for Business Ownership & Management.
- \* Cyril Bonnano, Eden Area Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Superintendent, presented an update of ROP focusing on career pathways which are broad groupings of occupations that have a common skill and knowledge, and provide a way for exploring career options. Mr. Bonnano noted that the beauty of this program was that it provided a way for students to earn college credits while in high school, thus allowing these students to jump ahead and bypass some of the entry level courses at Chabot College after they passed the courses at the Center, adding that ROP also offered several classes that meet UC entrance requirements.

Mr. Bonnano announced that for the upcoming school year, a new 2-year court reporting and captioners' program would be offered, as well as a possible masonry program, as five masonry companies had approached them regarding entry level brick layers. He reminded the Board that last year ROP had implemented a culinary program, which has been quite successful.

He also drew the Board attention to the information in their packets regarding new SARC legislation, SB 687, which expands the existing SARC content requirements in the areas of teacher salaries, per pupil expenditures, career technical education, and textbook sufficiency.

Director Irene Fujii provided statistics on how many San Leandro Unified School District students are enrolled in ROP programs at the high school and the Center, adding that normally the program does not except students younger than sixteen; however, a waiver is available for students to begin their pathway should the administration deem necessary at the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades.

A chart shared showed that San Leandro High offered twelve sections of ROP courses, taught by District employees; and thirteen sections such as academy, marketing, and business ownership, taught by ROP employees at the high school campus, noting that 201 District 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students attended the ROP Center in 2004/2005, where eighteen course sections were offered, for a grand total of 947 San Leandro High School students being served by ROP for the 2004/2005 school year, with the percentage of male and female students almost equal.

Miguel Macias and Sergio Carrasco, San Leandro High School students enrolled in the Criminal Justice program, shared how the ROP program had made a difference in looking at their career options.

Sergio said that the Criminal Justice program had given him the opportunity to look at life from a different point of view, and had opened up more options such as forensic science, an area of interest to him.

Miguel said that ROP had given him a “heads up” on career preparation and his hope of continuing his study of criminology at Chabot College, and becoming a police officer. ROP had also provided “hands on” experience which he found to be helpful as well as an opportunity to discuss local issues in the community that effect us all.

Board members thanked Mr. Bonnano for his service to the community, the exciting programs that he initiated, and for ROPs support and participation.

Trustees Cutter and Davis were very impressed on how many students from the high school participated in the program, and were encouraged to see the gender breakdown.

Mr. Cassidy was interested in how the District could interest more students in taking courses at the ROP Center and asked if the numbers shared were for a semester or an entire school year. Ms. Fujii said that the numbers represented those students who had attended 20 hours or more for an entire year (540 hours – either three hours in the morning or three hours in the afternoon), adding that the Center serves about 200 San Leandro students at any given time.

Techniques to increase greater attendance, and course expansion at the high school were also of interest to Mr. Cassidy. Ms. Fujii indicated that the high school administration has been very collaborative, and that the numbers have actually increased, adding that every year high school sophomores are taken on tour of the Center; they are also given an opportunity to hear guest speakers, at the school site, regarding pathway options.

Responding to Mr. Heystek, Mr. Bonnano said Careers in Education, medical classes, dental classes; Graphic Design, Computer-Aided Drafting/CAD, Criminal Justice/Forensic Science, Marketing, and Business Ownership were some of the UC credited courses.

At the request of Mr. Richards, Ms. Fujii explained that ROP supports the programs by giving back 78% of reported attendance for those course sections offered at the high school, plus the District receives full ADA because the students are attending classes at the site, noting that all classes are reviewed annually, so that they remain current.

Mr. Bonnano said that it had been a great opportunity to serve the District and the students with regards to providing options and that ROP would continue to help in any way they could.

- \* President Cutter, Trustee Richards, and Superintendent Lim presented a Certificate of Commendation to Cyril Bonnano, Regional Occupational Program (ROP) Superintendent, in recognition for all of his time, effort and contribution to the program. Trustee Richards announced that a retirement celebration honoring Mr. Bonnano would be June 2, 2006, 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the board room at the ROP Center.

### **8:00 pm**

- \* President Cutter and Superintendent Lim presented a Certificate of Commendation to Wilson Elementary School Fifth Grader, Alison Jenifer Smith, for receiving the Southern Alameda County Alliance of African-American Educators Cultural Awareness Achievement Award.
- \* Superintendent Lim shared a PowerPoint presentation, "The Journey of Measure A". She described the process, which began with the first District-held reception for parent leaders on October 7, 2005, as a grassroots effort to change the composition and the status of the schools in the City of San Leandro. The presentation included snapshots of the numerous volunteers and staff, who joined in this tremendous effort to improve the quality of education in San Leandro by working at the phone bank, and walking the neighborhoods sharing information about Measure A.

A Resolution of Appreciation was presented to Deborah Cox, and Leroy Smith, Co-Chairpersons of the Citizens for San Leandro Schools/Yes on Measure A, thanking them for months of dedicated service to the schools, school district and board, and community of San Leandro in pursuit of excellence in education for all students. “Without their commitment to better schools and a better community, this journey, the first parcel-tax revenue endeavor in history of San Leandro, would not have come to fruition.”

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

## **REPORTS**

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Hague reported receiving emails from Ken Pon regarding Measure A endorsement; from Mike McMahon regarding characteristics of public office holders; from Diana Quintal regarding thoughts on Measure A; and from Amy Furtado regarding the African American Achievement Night.
- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Chris Lim announced that they concluded the 4<sup>th</sup> Board Facilities Workshop and have framed about six options that would be brought forward for discussion with community leaders, adding that she was scheduled to meet with the Chamber on April 26 to share some of those options. The first Community Forum will be Wednesday, May 31, tentatively at the San Leandro High School beginning at 6:30 p.m. or 7 p.m., adding that she would provide more specific information once the time and place had been confirmed.

She invited the Board to the African American Achievement Night on Thursday, April 20, at John Muir Middle School at 6:45 p.m. and that Glenn Singleton would be the keynote speaker.

- 3) Board Committee Reports
  - Communication – Mr. Cassidy reported that the committee met on April 7 and discussed additional information pieces focusing on promoting the community forums, facilities issues, and accomplishments for the May 11, May 25, and June 15 editions of the San Leandro Times. Pending projects such as the press releases were also discussed.

4) Board Representatives' Reports

- Eden Area Regional Occupational Program – Mr. Richards reported that they met on April 6 and discussed AB 2107 as way of supporting the Governor’s continued emphasis on legislation that enhances program opportunities, staffing, staff training, and equipment in the area of career and technical education. They also acknowledge the winners of the DECA State Career Development Conference. He will pass on the list of all the San Leandro High School winners to the Superintendent.

The committee approved their 2006-2007 calendar. He mentioned the retirement party for Cyril Bonnano and shared the timeline for the replacement process. There will be a ROP new student orientation/open house on May 3 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The ROP Student Awards Ceremony will be May 25, at 6:30-8 p.m. at the Marina Community Center. Copies of the information shared will be sent to the Superintendent for her to pass on to the Board.

- San Leandro Chamber of Commerce Community Partners Committee- Mr. Davis announced the following upcoming events:

|          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| April 19 | Senate and Assembly Candidates Forum, moderated by the League of Women Voters   | San Leandro Main Library<br>Lecture Hall<br>6-7:30 p.m.     |
| April 22 | 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Job Fair for Teens, co-sponsored by the Chamber and the City of San Leandro Recreation Human Services and Library Services Departments | San Leandro Main Library<br>Dave Karp Room<br>10-1 p.m.     |
| April 22 | Shoreline Cleanup   | 8-12 noon   |
| April 23 | West Coast premier of <i>Forbidden Voices</i> , a compilation of recently discovered, never before heard, songs written during the Holocaust                  | Chabot College Performing Arts Center<br>3:00 p.m.          |
| April 27 | Taste of San Leandro, sponsored by Leadership San Leandro   | Marina Community Center<br>5:30-8:30 p.m.                   |
| May 9    | San Leandro City Council Forum  | Buffet luncheon at Ricky’s Sports Lounge                    |
| May 10   | San Leandro Business License Fee Increase Community Forum   | San Leandro Main Library<br>Lecture Hall<br>5:30-7:30 p.m.  |
| May 18   | Alameda County Education Candidates’ Forum, moderated by the League of Women Voters   | San Leandro Main Library<br>Lecture Hall.<br>5:30-7:30 p.m. |
| May 25   | San Leandro Chamber of Commerce May Block Party   | Davis Street Family Resource Center<br>5:30-7:30 p.m.       |
| June 23  | 2006 Chamber Golf Classic Scramble  |   |

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

### General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – March 27, 2006
- 1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – April 4, 2006
- 1.3-C Resolution of Appreciation

### Human Resources

- 2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report
- 2.2-C Renewal of Student Teacher Agreement

### Educational Services

- 3.1-C Acceptance of Donations
- 3.2-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Recommendation

### Business, Operations and Facilities

- 4.1-C Ratification of Payroll for March 2006
- 4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants
- 4.3-C Resolution #06-16, Declaring Certain Equipment Surplus and/or Obsolete
- 4.4-C Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Muir Well
- 4.5-C Resolution #06-17, Support of Application for Funding Apportionment and Authorization to Sign Applications and Associated Documents
- 4.6-C Sale and Disposal of Equipment

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

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Human Resources

2.1-A            Resolution #06-18, Reduce Classified Services Due to Lack of Funds

This item was pulled from the agenda.

2.2-A            Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

On a motion made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators by a 7-0 vote.

## **CONFERENCE ITEMS**

### General Services

1.1-CF           Schedule of Regular Board Meetings for 2006/2007

The Board discussed and considered approving the schedule of regular Board meetings for 2006/2007.

Because the Board was unable to come to a consensus on the schedule, President Cutter suggested that staff review the meeting date conflicts noted by Board members and bring it back to the next Board meeting.

1.2-CF           San Leandro Community Alliance for Education

The Board discussed and considered creating the San Leandro Community alliance for Education.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- John Sullivan, a vested community member, addressed the Board in support of the San Leandro Community Alliance for Education, as a way to counteract the perceived negativity that has existed between the City and school district for some time and begin working together to move forward for the sake of the students. He envisioned this group as a long-term advisory committee comprised of key community stakeholders that would be accountable to the Board, would collectively evaluate, recommend, and promote goals that would enhance the financial stability of the District, and would further the general welfare of our education system. He cautioned that this group couldn't



lean towards a group of District and City staff only, otherwise it would be perceived as just another layer of government that couldn't be trusted, adding that this would not be an easy task, but it's time for the community, through the San Leandro Community Alliance for Education (SLCAE), to come together in an collaborative effort for the betterment of the students.

- Charles Lowder, site coordinator for Washington Elementary School, and a Measure A volunteer, thanked the Board members who, along with numerous volunteers, worked at the phone banks, and walked the neighborhoods in support for the improvement of quality education in San Leandro, adding that although the measure did not pass, a clear message was delivered by 61% of the voters, that they are committed to the students of our community, and they expect the District to continue the momentum and provide the leadership necessary to move forward in this effort, and the City can “come along for the ride.”

Sharing her vision, Ms. Lim felt that it was time to reach out to the larger community and build some bridges, adding she was proposing a twenty-five member alliance; however, after sharing the proposal with John Sullivan earlier, who felt it should be broader based, and less parent-involved, she modified the original composition by reducing the number of parent representatives to one from each grade level i.e. elementary, middle, high, and adult schools, eliminating the District English Language Advisory Committee (DELAC), adding two leading service groups (i.e. Rotary and Lions), and six homeowners' association members, keeping the number at twenty-five.

She said she was open to discussion and hearing the Board's thoughts on the structure of the alliance, keeping in mind that Cabinet would staff the alliance, decided on how often they would meet and on what issues, and that it would be an advisory to the Superintendent with the goal of building a coalition, and working hand in hand.

The Board unanimously supported the concept of forming the San Leandro Community Alliance for Education, stating that this was long overdue, and that an alliance of this nature would be a powerful step towards the community feeling greater ownership of the District's schools, and now was the time to embark on this much needed and useful endeavor.

The Board made suggestions on the structure, composition, and size

of the alliance, adding that specific language needed to be included regarding the purpose, ground rules, the application, selection, and confirmation process, attendance requirements, and time commitment.

Some members felt that the nominees needed to live within the District's boundaries, while others felt that would limit business owners, Chamber members, and others who had a stake in the City, but don't live within our boundaries, from being considered.

Other considerations raised by the Board included having a representatives from the San Leandro Scholarship Foundation, Building Trades, Youth Collaborative, with Mr. Davis noting that by including homeowners' association representatives, it gave the District greater geographical equity and involvement.

Following the discussion, Superintendent Lim proposed taking some time, meeting with Cabinet, weighing all the issues and suggestions raised by the Board and then returning with another proposal at the next Board meeting.

President Cutter thanked John Sullivan, for his help with this endeavor and Superintendent Lim for her vision.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### Business, Operations and Facilities

#### 4.1-CF      Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$11,520,137.44 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

## **ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

- Ms. Perry reminded the Board that on April 27 at 7 p.m., CSBA would be honoring student board members and representatives at the Alameda County Office of Education and the CSBA Delegate Assembly would be May 6-7, 2006, in Sacramento.
- Mrs. Hague hoped to see everyone at the high school musical production of *Seussical* on Friday, April 21.
- Mr. Cassidy distributed information regarding population and projected growth from the California Department of Finance, an example of a

freshman academy in San Diego where the parents and various stakeholders are not involved, and a collection of articles related to freshman and the innovative development of 9<sup>th</sup> grade academies across the nation. Mr. Cassidy added that he was looking forward to future workshops and hearing about the outreach efforts being undertaken with the various internal stakeholders.

- Mrs. Cutter reported that she attended the Early Childhood Education Workshops, where information and resources were shared regarding the universal preschool. She has passed on a fact sheet showing the percentage of the total population of children of Alameda County who are under the age of five, and a comparative breakdown of five year olds attending Alameda County public schools to the Superintendent to include in the next *Confidentially Speaking*. She also announced that she would be attending an early childhood conference this weekend.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Future Board of Education Meetings**

- Regular Meeting – May 2, 2006
- Regular Meeting – May 16, 2006
- Regular Meeting – June 6, 2006
- Regular Meeting – June 20, 2006

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hague, Clerk