

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

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES

May 2, 2006

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on May 2, 2006, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 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
Katema Slocum, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

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

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:35 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 7:09 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Cutter said the Board had been in closed session and no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Trustee Perry and seconded by Trustee Richards, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of May 2, 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 success of *Suessical*, the high school musical based on Dr. Suess and his crafty characters.

She reported that many students missed school on Monday for the "Great May 1, 2006 Boycott" in support of immigration reform. Principal Amy Furtado has declared Friday, May 5 Unity Day to promote pride and unity. Activities will held from 1-3 p.m. on the Quad lawn where organizations will be selling food items and the faculty and students will participate in games such as kickball, softball, tug-a-war, musical chairs and a worm eating contest. AP testing has begun, and the STAR testing went well. The Senior Ball is scheduled for Friday, May 19 at the Galleria Design Center in San Francisco from 8 p.m. to midnight.

DECA students are competing in nationals this week. San Leandro High School was selected to receive the Jefferson Award for Public Services which encourages and honors individuals for the achievement and contributions through public and community service, They will be recognized on the Channel 5 website and at the June 14 A's game. May 1 through May 5 is Pirate Pride Week: Tuesday will be Mardi Gras Day, Wednesday, Aloha Day, Thursday, Fiesta Day, and Unity Day is Friday where paraphernalia will be sold in support each theme.

Seniors have begun to turn in their college cards, which are decorated and displayed in the main hallway. The cards list the students' name and college or trade school that they are planning on attending in the fall.

On behalf of the Alameda County School Board Member Association, Trustee Perry, and Vice President of the association presented Alison Zhao with a plaque and a program flyer honoring her for her work as a student board representative.

President Cutter commended Alison for a job well done, and suggested that the board attempt to attend San Leandro High School's "Unity Day" on Friday.

PRESENTATIONS

- * Superintendent Christine Lim and Adult School Principal, Susanne Wong presented Board President Pauline Cutter with a Certificate of Recognition for being selected as one of the 150 from California adult learners to receive the California Adult Education Students Succeed (CCAIE) Award for her have made outstanding contributions to the community. Mrs. Cutter will be honored at luncheon hosted by CCAIE on May 6th in Sacramento.

Susanne presented the board and superintendent with co-memorable pins that read: "California Adult Education, 1856 -2006, 150 Years Building Education".

President Cutter expressed her joy in working with kids, and thanked everyone, adding that her experience with Broadmoor Preschool inspired her to do more.

- * Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Assistant Director of Technology Esteban Zapiain presented the highlights of the district's updated 2006-2009 Technology Plan. Highlights of the nine sections were presented: Plan Duration, Stakeholders, Curriculum, Infrastructure, Hardware/Software and Support, Funding and Budget, Monitoring and Evaluation, Adult Literacy, and Research based Methods.

They explained that the major objective of the plan is to improve teaching and learning by upgrading the technology infrastructure by 2009 so that every classroom has access to technology, by creating a district wide technology committee who would deepen communication with the community, help clarify instructional and technical needs, keep focused on the major objectives, and assist in drafting the annual report that is required by the State.

However, Ms. Cathey explained that obtaining funding, and adequate tech support (staffing, organization), remain a challenge for our District, noting that according to the State and Federal requirements we would need approximately \$1.5 million to bring us up to the staff/student/computer ratio standards.

Funding, staffing, and training, and what would happen if we don't pass the bond, were some of the questions and concerns raised by the Board. Ms. Cathey explained that the District planned to pursue E-Rate and EETT grants, that the County does offer training, and that there were professional development opportunities available, with Mr. Zapiain adding that the tech committee should encourage creativity as the District must have an approved plan for further growth and in order to get state support. Director of Curriculum, Debbie Wong, said that the Adult School does offer training classes for teachers free of charge.

Mr. Zapiain commended the Food Service Director Aulani Cler for increasing participation in the National School Lunch Program by implementing Direct Certification through ACOE which qualifies students for free meals based on their eligibility through other programs. In 1996, the district-wide free and reduced students was at 30%; 2006 the program is now at 60% district-wide which is very significant in terms of the E-Rate grant.

Mr. Davis congratulated staff on the comprehensive plan. The District-wide Tech Committee is very encouraged when looking toward the future.

President Cutter felt that because of expense of the Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), further explanation be presented to the Facility and Technology Committee. Mr. Zapiain explained that with the implementation of VOIP in the next 4-6 years the district would be saving money, adding that the copper wire based plan currently in place will ensure a major cost for each additional feature Voice Over Internet Protocol provides more services at less cost.

Ms. Wong informed the Board that Educational Services is undergoing a history and social science adoption this year and as part of the package technology has been integrated into the program. SLHS will receive 15 laptops, LCD projectors and training to use them. This will be presented to the Board soon.

The full Technology Plan is available on the district's website following the review by the Board of Education.

- * Debbie Wong, Director of Curriculum and Professional Development presented highlights of the District's Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program. She explained that the Gifted and Talent Education (GATE) Program identifies students who possess evidence of high performance capabilities, and three years ago San Leandro Unified

implemented an identification process that tests all third graders in order to identify more students, and older students who are referred by a teacher or parent. The J.C. Ravens Non Verbal Intelligence Test, STAR data, and teacher rating scale are the identification tools used to qualify the students, and a District can only receive state funding with an approved GATE plan, which the District is currently working on.

The program for the District has moved from an after-school program. At the elementary level gifted students meet in cluster groups, which provide differentiated instruction during the school day; middle grade student have cluster groups in core classes which provide differentiated instruction, and enrichment; at the high school level advisors follow students throughout the 4 years for program planning and support and independent study opportunities.

It is the hope that in the 2006-07 school year, there will be an increase in parent involvement on the advisory committee, Differentiated Instruction training will continue for teachers, we will explore GATE teacher 5-day certification training, provide parent education events, research non-traditional assessment to determine student "talented" areas, and explore other funding sources to improve programs at sites.

The board shared additional thoughts, concerns and asked clarifying questions.

Mrs. Hague felt how underaccessed GATE parent groups were, and stressed the need for continued promotion of enrichment programs available.

In response to Mr. Heystek, Ms. Wong said that GATE identified students at the high school level who transfer into the District are automatically accepted, however those who are not, need to be referred through the parent or teacher referral process.

Mr. Cassidy requested a list of the school sites that offer after school enrichment programs for their GATE students. With regards t the parent recruitment process for the Advisory Committee, he felt that there should be some standards and guidelines developed in an effort to keep the committee from getting stagnate.

- Gerald Shovlin, a GATE Advisory Committee member and parent, thanked Debbie for a great presentation, and commended her for a job well done with the GATE Program. He explained that he was a member of the California Association for the Gifted (CAG) and shared that the complaint he hears most is “In my district for GATE nothing happens”, adding “that was not the case with San Leandro.”

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Ms. Hague reported the receipt of the following emails from Kathy Tronvig regarding the Project Fit opening; from Morgan Mack-Rose and Charles Lauder regarding the inter-district transfer policy; from Guroch Sagrath regarding failure to pass Measure A; from Mike McMann regarding PPIC Survey; and Barbara Tierney regarding student attendance.
- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim reported on
 - The events that took place following a standoff that occurred after school between Latino and African-American students on Tuesday, April 25, stating that the lunch period was shortened and security heightened on Wednesday when additional staff and police presence failed to calm the students and prevent several fights that occurred. Twenty-nine students were cited by the police and suspended. She added that on May 4 at 7 p.m., parents and educators would be discussing how to address long-term safety issues at the school during a United Parents meeting in the cafeteria, and encouraged Board members to attend.
 - In a separate incident Ms. Lim said that the school received an anonymous tip that there may have been a person with a gun on the roof of the high school. This prompted a “lock down” of the school while the police investigated. Fortunately the tip was false, and the students were released; however, this delayed school dismissal for twenty-five minutes. During this time, students remained calm while the campus was being searched, and she expressed how impressed she was with the students.
 - The Superintendent announced that Assistant Superintendent Cindy Cathey would be convening a high school staff Development Team on Wednesday, May 10 to discuss school climate, campus overcrowding, and cultural celebrations such as Unity Day, and Cinco de Mayo as a way of creating an environment that all students can be proud of.
 - On May 31 a Community Forum is scheduled to discuss various

options for growth. San Leandro Unified wants to generate an interest from the community and a call for action. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be in the San Leandro High School gym.

- During the May 1 Boycott, Ms. Lim reported that attendance at the high school was less than 700 students, the middle schools had little over 300 students' missing and Wilson's attendance dropped by 150 students for a total of approximately 1500 students out of school. Ms. Lim thanked Assistant Superintendent Cathey for sending out a letter to be proactive, and thanked Ed. Services for giving out curriculum about the immigration laws.
- *Suessical* was a great event! She stressed the need for press coverage highlighting the wonderful things that the students do.
- Superintendent Lim will attend a WASC from May 14 -17 at Lincoln High school in San Francisco.

3) Board Committee Reports

- Communication – Mr. Cassidy reported that the meeting was cancelled because of the San Leandro High School safety issue.
- Policy – Ms. Perry reported that the committee met on April 17, and discussed the Health and Welfare for Retirees Policy, GATE Plan, and the Continuation Education Policy noting that these items were on the action for Board action tonight.

4) Board Representatives' Reports

- Alameda County School Boards Association – Ms. Perry reported that on May 18, ACSBA will be honoring student board members and recognizing board members whose terms will end in 2006, noting that Trustees Cutter and Heystek were among the 40 people within the county to be honored.

Superintendent Lim announced the Elementary Open House on May 18.

CONSENT ITEMS

President Cutter requested that Consent Items 3.2-C and 3.3-C be pulled from the Consent calendar.

General Services

1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – April 17, 2006

1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – April 18, 2006

1.3-C Approval of Special Board Minutes – April 25, 2006

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

2.2-C Resolution #06-20 Day of the Teacher

2.3-C Resolution #06-21 Classified School Employees Week

2.4-C Resolution #06-22 School Nurse Day

2.5-C Board Policy 4154.1/4254.1/4354.1 Retiree health and Welfare Benefits and Health Plan Payment for Retirees Outside Service Area

Educational Services

3.1-C Administrative Panel for Expulsion Recommendation

3.4-C Administrative Panel for Expulsion Recommendation

3.5-C Administrative Panel for Expulsion Recommendation

3.6-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Recommendation

3.7-C Technology Plan 2006-2009

3.8-C Board Policy 6172 Gifted and Talented(GATE) Program

3.9-C Board Policy 6184 Continuation Education

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

Educational Services

3.2-C Administrative Panel for Expulsion Recommendation

3.3-C Administrative Panel for Expulsion Recommendation

Ms. Cutter noted that the reason for pulling Consent Items 3.2-C and 3.3-C was due to the dissatisfaction of the process.

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved Consent Items 3.2-C and 3.3-C by a 7-0 vote.

CONFERENCE ITEMS

General Services

1.1-CF Board Committee Goals/Action Steps

The Board discussed and considered approving the Board Committee Goals/Action Steps as presented.

Mr. Richards noted Advocacy and City District Liaison committees had not submitted their action steps and suggested that those two items be omitted. Mr. Cassidy asked to hold off on approval until those committees have submitted their goals.

It was the consensus of the Board to bring this item back.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Educational Services

3.1-I Williams Quarterly Report

The Board received for review the Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures Quarterly Report for January – March 2006, noting that there were no complaints filed for the 1st quarter.

3.2-I AR 6172 Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program

The Board received for information AR 6121, Gifted and Talented Education GATE Program.

3.3-I AR 6184 Continuation Education

The Board received for information, AR 6184, Continuation Education.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Ray Davis asked if the District recognizes parent involvement in the GATE Advisory Committee. Superintendent Lim said that there was a reception earlier this year and another will follow at the end of the year.
- Trustee Perry announced she will attend the BTSA council meeting tomorrow and the CSBA assembly this weekend in Sacramento. *Suessical*

was outstanding this year, adding that “It was something the entire community could put their arms around.”

- Trustee Hague felt that *Suessical* couldn’t have come at a better time, after having experienced just a difficult week, adding “if only the press were here now”. She it was wonderful to see the little kids and hope more would attend next year.
- Mr. Cassidy asked about the status of the Jefferson Elementary School construction and the San Leandro High School gating project. Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Leon Glaster said that the gating project would begin this summer, and that an update on the Jefferson project would be addressed in the upcoming *Confidentially Speaking*. Mr. Cassidy appreciated the Superintendent’s comments regarding the events that occurred at the high school and recommended a communication from her be included in the newspaper. He also requested a presentation regarding safety at the high school be presented at the first meeting in June.

Superintendent Lim said due to time constraints an update could be done but a presentation may not be possible. Also responding to Mr. Cassidy request, Ms. Lim said that residency verification and middle school beautification would be discussed at a June Board meeting.

Mr. Cassidy shared feedback received regarding the national boycott day letter distributed by staff, noting that non-parental community members felt that the letter was threatening.

Mr. Cassidy also enjoyed the *Suessical* musical and suggested that the Board recognize key people involved with the presentation with Certificates of Commendation at the next board meeting, with Mrs. Cutter adding that winter and spring sports team coaches and athletics should also be recognized.

Mrs. Cutter also requested that the District contact the police regarding emergencies and training protocols for crossing guards. She appreciated and thanked Susanne Wong for nominating her for the CCAE award.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

- Regular Meeting – June 6, 2006
- Regular Meeting – June 20, 2006

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hague, Clerk