

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

May 18, 2010

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on May 18, 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 Morgan Mack-Rose
Trustee Diana Prola
Trustee Carmen Sullivan
Trustee Hermy Almonte, Clerk
Trustee Lisa Hague, Vice President
Trustee Mike Katz-Lacabe, President
Steven Mills, Student Board Member

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 6:01 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Interim Superintendent; Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Hiring; Conference with Labor Negotiator, Unrepresented Employees: Interim Superintendent, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; 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 Government Code Sections 5495, 54956.6, 54956.9(b), 54956.8, and 54956.9. The closed session was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:16 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Katz-Lacabe said the Board had been in closed session where no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Trustee Hague and seconded by Trustee Almonte, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of May 18, 2010, by a 7-0 vote.

REPORTS Parks & Recreation Commission Report: There was no report.

PRESENTATIONS

- * San Leandro Unified School District Mid-Alameda County Special Education Local Plan Area (MACSELPA) “Excellence in Special Education Award” Recipients

Certificates of Commendation were presented to the recipients of the Mid-Alameda County Special Education Local Plan Area (MACSELPA) Community Advisory Committee’s “Excellence in Special Education Award” for their dedicated, compassionate, and outstanding service to the Special Education students in San Leandro:

- Julie Avilla, Special Day Class Teacher, Madison Elementary
- Carol Delton, Speech Teacher, San Leandro High School
- Terrilynn Haggins-Bassett, Special Day Class Teacher, Garfield Elementary School
- Elaine Tango, Special Day Class Teacher, Muir Middle School

- * California State Distribution Education Clubs of American (DECA) Student Recognition

Certificates of Commendation were presented to the winners of the California State Distribution Education Clubs of America (DECA) Conference, March 11-14, 2010:

Eden Area Regional Occupational Programs (EAROP) Marketing
Education and Academy for Business and Finance

Financial Operation Research Event

- Wendy Ngu

Business Operation Research Event

- Jose Robels
- Christine Hererra

All three students thanked their advisor, San Leandro High School teacher Mary Styner, and family members who supported their excellent efforts and hard work.

* Social Justice Academy

Seniors from the San Leandro High School Social Justice Academy are required to complete a Senior Project as part of their course work. For the past year both Courtneigh Sullivan and Carrin Marquez have been working on an independent project for their senior elective called QUEST (Question, Understand, Experience, Service, Testimony), whereby they chose an issue of importance to them and the greater community. The students presented their research and suggestions for change.

- Courtneigh Sullivan provided a PowerPoint on Local Government focusing on civic participation, specifically the Board of Education meetings. The presentation included steps the Board, the public and staff of the District can take to keep the lines of communication open. Ms. Sullivan stressed how attending Board meetings can play an important part in keeping the lines of communication open and encouraged the public to continue to attend meetings, come prepared, address the Board, and to keep the Board abreast of their concerns. At the same time, Ms. Sullivan suggested that the Board make a concerted effort to communicate and acknowledge that those concerns and suggestions voiced are important, appreciated, and listened to.
- Carrin Marquez's project focused on the importance of offering Ethnic Studies Courses at San Leandro High School. Using James Logan High School's Ethnic Studies program as the basis of her course work, Ms. Marquez shared a video she created recording comments from the students and staff at Logan High School on why Ethnic Studies was important to them. Comments included, "It teaches you a lot about your heritage and ethnicity." "Opens your mind to who we are." "Because the students can relate to the information, they carry it with

them throughout their everyday lives and into the future.” “It’s a critical component to the graduation requirements and allows for the study of ones own culture, but more importantly the culture of others.”

On behalf of the Board President Katz-Lacabe thanked both students for the presentations.

* High Expectations Parent Education Program

Teneh Weller, several participating parents, and principals Victoria Forrester and Ruben Aurelio provided the Board of Education with highlights and summary information related to the elementary High Expectations Program. The program consisted of a series of nine Parent Education workshops designed to empower parents to actively participate in their child's education. Highlights included:

- The program was launched at eight elementary schools and in English and in Spanish at six schools.
- District-wide 233 parents attended the first meeting; and 90% (212) of the parents, graduated.
- The graduating parents were very supportive of the program, commenting that, “They walked away with new tools to better support their child.” “They learned how to communicate with their child’s teacher in a better way,” and “They now feel more comfortable coming into the school.” One parent also noted that she had a student at Bancroft Middle School and felt that offering this type of program at the middle school would be very beneficial.

Following the presentation, the Board asked questions and offered suggestions such as monitoring long-termed impact on student achievement and attendance, and exploring ways to get participation high at all schools.

Student Board member Mills commented that, through conversations at the high school, a program such as this would be very helpful in improving students’ test scores.

* Program Improvement Local Education Agency Plan (LEAP) Addendum Status Report

Staff from Educational Services provided the Board of Education with a progress report related to implementation of the Program Improvement

Local Educational Plan Addendum approved by the Board of Education on January 12, 2010. The presentation included an update on our high priority areas, programmatic improvements, measurable goals and outcomes, and looking ahead to 2010-11 implementation. Key points included:

- The purpose of the work is to establish a systematic infrastructure to help meet the academic needs of all of our students
- Nine Essential Program Components help build the plan
- Six identified high priority areas of focus
- Theory of action is to implement strong English Language Arts and Mathematics core instruction for benchmark, advanced, and below grade-level learners, aligned with a systematic, data-driven tiered intervention that supports student to be successful in the core
- In 2010-11, approximately 700 students, in grades 6-9, will need strategic or intensive intervention
- In 2011-12, after implementation, there should be a 50% reduction (350) of students needing strategic or intensive intervention because of the curriculum, progress monitoring, and placement criteria, etc.
- The District will strive to meet its measureable goals in the following areas: Graduation Rate target of 83.2%; English Language Arts Safe Harbor target of 56.8%; and Mathematics District Safe Harbor target of 48.8%

The Board thanked staff for the thorough presentation, and hard work towards the academic success of our students.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Janita Lopez, and Estella Hernandez expressed their support of Wilson Elementary School Principal, Julio Fernandez, stating that Mr. Hernandez places safety as his top priority, makes himself available to parents and students, and has accomplished a lot for the students at Wilson. They shared a survey listing supportive parents.

The Board took a break at 9:11 p.m. and reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Almonte reported receipt of the following emails from May 4, 2010, through May 16, 2010: From Deborah and Kevin Cox regarding “Eat Out for Education”; from Cher Mott, “Week of the Administrator; from Marilyn Thirion regarding “Academy Graduation; from

Deborah Benyahia regarding “Message from AC Transit, regarding Public Hearing on May 26”; from Dennis Lim regarding “AC Transit to hold public hearings”; from Stephen Cassidy regarding “Appointment for Region 7-B is SL School Board Member Diana Prola”; from Jeanette Wood regarding “SLHS Football Golf Tournament; from Kelly Ball regarding “More Police, Fire Recruits Flunk Fitness Test; from Kim Amato regarding \$1000 Grants from Beyond Questions; from Marek Janko regarding support; from Deborah Benyahia regarding “AC Transit Resolution 10-027 RE: Arizona’s Anti-Immigration Law”; from Carol Delton regarding “Use less costly resources for equity work”, and “Questions on ASSETS grant contract and other funding from Supplemental Instruction”.

2) Student Board Member Report – Student Board member Steven Mills updated that Board on activities at San Leandro High School. Highlights included:

- The Junior/Senior Ball was May 8 and was a great success
- The Associate Student Body was disappointed that more teachers didn’t participate in the raffle incentive during the STAR test
- There will be a Talent Show on Friday, May 21, 7 p.m. in the school gym
- The badminton team has advanced to the NCS competition
- There will be a Color/Spring Sports Rally on Friday, May 28 from 3:15-7:00 p.m. in the school gym. Sport teams will wear their uniforms and a different color has been assigned to the freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors to show class spirit
- The After Grad Party will be June 17, from 10-2:00 a.m.
- Plans are in the works for Unity Day scheduled for June 4

As a side note, Trustee Prola congratulated Student Board member Mills for being accepted at Cal Berkeley.

3) Union Representative Reports

- Carol Alvarez, California School Employees’ Association (CSEA) President, recognized the classified employees as the District celebrates Classified School Employees’ Week. Ms. Alvarez also shared an email from a classified employee regarding the reduction of her position and urged the Board to think about the elementary library Para Educators as they celebrate the work of our classified employees during this week.

Ms. Alvarez also distributed a flyer announcing a “Statewide Day of Action” rally on May 19, 2010, in Livermore. Ms. Alvarez invited the Board to join them in sending a message to California leaders saying “Enough is Enough! – it’s time to quit balancing the budget on our children’s backs.”

- Mark Hamilton, San Leandro Teacher Association, provided accolades to CSEA, stating that “without them we couldn’t do what do.”

4) Interim Superintendent Report – Interim Superintendent Cindy Cathey provided the following report:

- The secondary Open Houses were last week. Flyers in English and Spanish informing the community and staff of the Board’s interest in exploring a potential bond to address sports facility, fields, swimming pool, etc. were distributed. The flyers will be distributed at the elementary Open Houses on May 27.
- The Budget Advisory Committee met on May 5 to review the reductions and adjustments for 2011-2012 and 2012-2012. They also received updated budget charts. Their next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 9 where they will receive information on the May Revise, which she would be attending on Friday, May 21, along with Assistant Superintendent Chin-Bendib and Trustee Mack-Rose.
- Thursday, May 20, 6-8 p.m. will be the District’s first Latino Student Achievement Night at John Muir Middle School sponsored by the DELAC and ELAC groups.

5) Board Committee Reports

- Facilities & Technology- Trustee Cutter reported that the committee met on May 6 and discussed the following items that were being brought forward for Board consideration tonight: Change Order #7 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus, Amendment #3 to the 3QC Labor Compliance Program professional services contract, Amendment #3 to the Jeffery E. Wong Architectural Design Services contract, Amendment #7 to the Ninyo & Moore professional contract for additional testing and inspection at the Arts Education Center project, D.L. Falk contract for open space & Business Academy, and reviewed signage on the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus 138th Avenue entrance canopy wording, originally presented on April 23, 2010. Additionally the committee discussed the modernization scope and identification of projects for a potential new Bond, and potential projects for future estimated \$5.4M from Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) savings. The next meeting of the Facilities & Technology committee will be May 20, 10-11:30 a.m. at the District Office.

5) Board Representatives' Reports

- Eden Area Regional Occupational Program – Trustee Almonte reported that the Governing Board of the Eden Area ROP met on May 6 and approved Resolution 388: Day of the Teacher; Resolution 389: Classified Employees' Week; Resolution 390: Temporary Borrowing between Funds; and Resolution 391: Year End Budget Transfers of Funds.

CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Prola requested that Consent Items 3.1-C Acceptance of Donations; 3.2- Designation of School Representatives to the California Interscholastic Federation League; 3.3-C Renewal of San Leandro High School Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 Grant Application for the 2010-2011 School year; and 3.4-C Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between San Leandro Unified School District and Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) to Provide SB 472 Houghton-Mifflin ELA Training for K-5 Teachers be pulled from the consent calendar.

General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – May 4, 2010
- 1.2-C Approval of Board Minutes – May 6, 2010

Human Resources

- 2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Business Operations

- 4.1-C Ratification of Payroll for April 2010
- 4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants
- 4.3-C Approval of Intra-Budget Transfers (BT) and Budget Revisions (BR) for April 2010

Facilities and Construction

- 5.1-C Signage on the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus 138th Street Entrance Canopy
- 5.2-C Construction Contract with LC General Engineering and Construction, Inc. for the San Leandro High School (SLHS) Business

Academy and Open Space Project

- 5.3-C Construction Contract with D.L. Falk for the San Leandro High School Open Space and Business Academy Project
- 5.4-C Amendment #3 to the 3AC Labor Compliance Program (LCP) Professional Services Contract
- 5.5-C Change Order #7 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction Contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus
- 5.6-C Amendment #3 to the Jeffery E. Wong Architectural Design Services Contract for John Muir Middle School
- 5.7-C Amendment #7 to the Ninyo & Moore Professional Services Contract for Additional Testing and Inspection at the Arts Education Center Project

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the consent items by a 7-0 vote.

Educational Services

3.1-C Acceptance of Donations

Staff clarified for Trustee Prola that the amount of all cash donations are listed on the report.

On a motion made by Trustee Prola and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board approved the Acceptance of Donations as presented by a 7-0 vote.

3.2-C Designation of School Representatives to the California Interscholastic Federation League (CIF)

In response to Trustee Prola on the representative's role and how they are selected, staff explained that each year representatives to the CIF must be designated by the high school (in a non-election process) and approved by the Board to be able to vote on matters concerning their league and section. If the CIF Section Office does not receive this form by the deadline of July 1, our voting privileges will be suspended for the 2010-2011 school year.

On a motion made by Trustee Prola and seconded by Trustee

Sullivan, the Board approved the designation of school representatives to the California Interscholastic Federation League (CIF), by a 7-0 vote.

3.3-C Renewal of San Leandro High School Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 Grant Application for the 2010-2011 School Year

Trustee Prola noted that her question had already been addressed.

On a motion made by Trustee Prola and seconded by Trustee Sullivan, the Board approved the renewal of San Leandro High School Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 Grant Application for the 2010-2011 school year, by a 7-0 vote.

3.4-C Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between San Leandro Unified School District and Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) to Provide SB 472 Houghton-Mifflin ELA Training for K-5 Teachers

Responding to Trustee Prola, staff explained that since being notified that the District had become a Program Improvement District, one of the main requirements was that all English/Language Arts and Math teachers must complete a 40-hour professional development focused on the state-adopted instructional materials. Interim Superintendent Cathey confirmed that at the end of this training, all elementary and secondary ELA teachers will have met that requirement.

On a motion made by Trustee Prola and seconded by Trustee Almonte, the Board approved Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between San Leandro Unified School District and Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) to provide SB 472 Houghton-Mifflin ELA training for K-5 Teachers, by a 7-0 vote.

ACTION ITEMS

General Services

1.1-A Employment Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the Assistant Superintendent, Business Services for the period July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2012

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board approved the employment contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the Assistant Superintendent,

Business Services for the period July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2012, by a 7-0 vote.

1.2-A Employment Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the Interim Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services for the period July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the employment contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the Interim Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services for the period of July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, by a 7-0 vote.

Human Resources

2.1-A Resolution #10-38 Reduction or Elimination of Specially Funded and Generally Funded Classified Services

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Mack-Rose, the Board adopted Resolution #10-38 Reduction or Elimination of Specially Funded and Generally Funded Classified Services, by a 7-0 vote.

CONFERENCE ITEM

General Services

1.1-CF Schedule of Regular Board Meetings

The Board discussed and considered approving the schedule of the regular Board meetings for 2010-2011.

Trustee Mack-Rose proposed that the 2nd Tuesday of the each month be tentatively set aside for work study sessions from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the District Office.

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board approved the schedule of regular Board meetings for 2010-2011, including the following tentative dates for work study sessions: July 13, August 31, September 14, October 12, November 9, 2010; and January 18, February 15, March 8, and May 10, 2011, by a 7-0 vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Business Operations

4.1-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$16,804,674.24 have been deposited in the Treasure of Alameda County.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Trustee Mack-Rose asked and received consensus to have budget questions and answers placed on the website.

Trustee Mack-Rose asked that Kindergarten readiness be addressed.

Trustee Mack-Rose suggested that, in light of recent occurrences at the sites, Interim Superintendent Cathey encourage the high school and middle schools to form a task force that addresses safety and the impact bullying has on student learning.

- Piggybacking on the safety concern raised by Trustee Mack-Rose, Trustee Sullivan would like to see the Board Facilities and Technology committee look into ongoing coverage at the entrance to the high school and consider placing a fence at Wilson Elementary school.

Trustee Sullivan commented on how wonderful the Senior Ball was and that the After Grad Party will be June 17, 10-2:00 a.m.

Trustee Sullivan commented that while the month of May honors “Mothers,” she would like to dedicate tonight’s meeting in memory of Dorothy Height, a pioneer of both the Civil Rights Movement and the Women’s Movement.

- Trustee Almonte asked for consensus to invite representatives from East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) to provide a presentation to the Board regarding California’s water issues and supplies. Trustee Katz-Lacabe felt that, while this was very important information, he didn’t feel that it was relevant to students and education. Trustee Almonte did not receive consensus to his request.
- Trustee Hague commented on the success of the San Leandro High School Boosters’ fundraiser at Drakes Brewery.
- Trustee Prola commented on a program offered by Big Smiles Dental, whereby a dentist (equipped with x-ray equipment and dental tools) comes to the schools and provides a dental exam free of charge to students.

Interim Superintendent Cathey noted that currently Davis Street provides such a program.

Trustee Prola would like staff to consider installing additional security cameras on the high school campus.

Trustee Prola commented that she would be attending the California School Boards Delegate Assembly in Sacramento this weekend, May 22-23.

- Trustee Cutter was concerned with the District's similar schools scores.

Trustee Cutter suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee for a Potential Bond reach out to the City Parks and Recreation Commission for their input.

- Trustee Katz-Lacabe commented that he attended the Chamber Government Affairs committee meeting along with Interim Superintendent Cathy, and Martin Capron from the San Leandro Sports Foundation, and found it to be very informative.

On Friday, May 14, Trustee Katz-Lacabe reported that he attended an open house at Estabrook Place, the new senior housing located across the street from McKinley Elementary, slated to open in June. Trustee Katz-Lacabe stated that he spoke with City Councilmember Gregory and Cher Mott, Principal of McKinley about program ideas that will provide interaction between the seniors living at the facility and the students at McKinley such as reading and cultural events, etc.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, June 2, 2010

Regular Meeting – June 15, 2009

Special Meeting – June 29, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Prola the Board adjourned the meeting in memory of Civil Rights leader Dorothy Height at 10:01 p.m., by a 7-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Hermy Almonte, Clerk