

SAN LEANDRO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA  
[www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us](http://www.sanleandro.k12.ca.us)

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION - MINUTES**

May 20, 2008

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on May 20, 2008, in the San Leandro City Council Chambers, 835 East 14th Street, San Leandro, California.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Ray Davis.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Stephen Cassidy  
Mr. Mike Katz-Lacabe  
Ms. Linda Perry  
Mr. T. W. "Rick" Richards  
Mrs. Pauline Cutter, Clerk (arrived at 6:03 p.m.)  
Mrs. Lisa Hague, Vice President  
Mr. Ray Davis, President  
Ms. Astrid Fernandes, Student Board Member

**DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT**

Christine Lim, Superintendent  
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent  
Byron Isaac, Assistant Superintendent  
Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent  
Valerie Cunha, 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 Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – significant exposure to litigation, Public Employee Appointment – Title: Vice Principal, Wilson Elementary School, Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Property(ies), Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, and Tort Claim pursuant to Education Code Section 35146 and 48918(c), Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.(b),

54956.8, 54956.9, and 54956.95 It was determined that there was no need for Student Expulsions. The closed session was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:11 p.m. with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag. President Davis noted that the Board had been in closed session and had taken the following action:

- On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board appointed Chanel King as Vice Principal of Wilson Elementary School by a 7-0.
- On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board rejected Liability Claim #4104-08-00022-01-01 by a 6-1 vote with Trustee Cassidy opposed.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board rejected Liability Claim #4104-08-00021-01-01 by a 6-1 vote with Trustee Cassidy opposed.
- On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mr. Cassidy the Board rejected Tort Claim #1455 by a 6-0-1 vote with Mrs. Cutter abstaining.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Trustee Richards and seconded by Trustee Katz, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of May 20, 2008, by a 7-0 vote.

### **REPORTS**

Parks & Recreation Commission Report: Juan Manuel Martinez, San Leandro Unified School District representative updated the Board on activities of the commission. The Cinco de Mayo celebration at the City Hall on May 5 was enjoyed by all, and the they received a presentation on the plans for a City dog park.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- \* Certificates of Commendation will be presented to the following people in recognition of all their time and effort towards the success of San Leandro High School's musical production of *West Side Story*:

Producer .....Claire McKean  
Choreography .....Bryant Cash-Welch, Roy Glover  
Director.....Megan McKinley  
Costume & Stage Manager .....Gabrielle Koizumi  
Vocal Director .....Esther Archer  
Orchestra Director .....David Leese

Sets .....	J. P. Frary
Costumes/Props: .....	Caeli Koizumi, Elizabeth Cardoso, Liz Nelson
Sound .....	John Sander
Lights.....	Donny Monteiro
Spot Lights.....	Chelsea Woolman, Evan Torkelsen
Snack Bar .....	Joe Sander, Rilia Sander
Stage Crew	Sandy Schwarz, Geneva Scharff, Taylor Vanden-Broek, Wadie Salamy, Maisa Morrar, Shaceri Poole, Carrie Burnett, Nicole Davila, Stephanie Hanley, Caeli Koizumi
Parent Volunteers .....	Yvette Yarber, Wendy Alder, Wendy Van De Veer, Chantay Bullins, Karen Koizumi, Lisa Hague, Pam James, Maria Harlow, Cynthia Jepsen, Carla Schultheis-Gerry, Dittie Hague

**PRESENTATIONS:**

District staff and WLC Architects gave a presentation on the *Construction Documents Phase* for the exterior color and landscaping of the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus. The Steering Committee reviewed and provided feedback on the exterior color and landscaping on May 7, 2008, which were incorporated into the design. The exterior color and landscaping designs were presented to the Facilities and Technology Committee on May 15, 2008. Staff recommended that the Board approve the exterior color and landscaping for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus as presented to keep the project on schedule. Highlight included:

- The selected color schemes will keep the continuity of the neighborhood and fit in very well with the new senior center facility being built across the street as well as the neighboring buildings
- The bricks on the building will be covered with a graffiti-resistant sealer
- The color selected falls within the same color-tones as the new science building on the high school campus

Facilities and Construction

5.1-A Approve the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus Exterior Color

On a motion by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the color scheme selected by the Steering Committee by a vote of 7-0. Student Board member Fernandes favored the neutral tones as presented.

Bill Harris, landscape architect, walked the Board through the selection of the plants and trees being proposed, noting that they will be environmental friendly,

low maintenance, drought resistant, and visually complimentary to the architecture of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade campus.

The Board raised safety concerns with regards to the placement of the Redwood tress, as well as trees dropping their leaves, allergies, and the rooting system which were addressed by staff.

A question was raised regarding developing curriculum which would include the study of the plants and draining system. It was explained that the bioswell system located between the shopping center and campus provides more of native and horticulture area which could be used as a potential educational component.

## **ACTION**

### 5.1-A 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus Landscaping Design

On a motion by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Katz, the landscaping plan was passed by a vote of 5-2, with Trustees Cutter and Perry opposing. Student Board member Fernandez indicated that she liked the design.

- \* Joe Vela of AEDIS Architects presented the Career Technical Education *Design Development Phase* drawings. It was noted that this phase being presented tonight for approval incorporated the feedback from the Steering Committee which met on May 7, and subsequently was presented to the Facilities and Technology Committee on May 15, 2008, for review and feedback.

Direct entrances to each shop yard for easier assess, gates separating the Auto, Metal, and Wood shops in the event of joint projects, a pedestrian path from the parking lot, and a concrete surface, as opposed to asphalt, in the area behind the shops were among some of the suggestions and feedback received from the teachers and user groups.

## **ACTION**

### 5.2-A Career Technical Education Design Development Phase

On a motion by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Richards, Board approved the Career Technical Education Design Development Phase drawing by a 7-0 vote.

## **PRESENTATION**

- \* Julianna Sikes, Curriculum Specialist, and members of the Physical Education Task Force (Kathy Tronvig, Lynette Watkins, Myles Farrell, Jim Sorensen, Isabelle Wettergren, Mitch Miloslavich, Kristin Porter, and Craig McKinley,

Physical Education Coordinator from Alameda County Office of Education) presented highlights of the District's new K-12 Physical Education Strategic Plan. The team also presented components of the plan which included the purpose, goals, curriculum, as well as the five year implementation timeline. The PE Strategic Plan was designed to identify those standards and skills that will be taught to students across all grades and at all schools, and ensures that the students have a coherent, well articulated physical education program. Key points included:

- High levels of obesity and diabetes and low fitness levels in California children, particularly in Latino, African American and Native American youth, indicate the need for our schools to make Physical Education a priority and engage our youth in rigorous physical activities and provide them with knowledge to make informed decisions.
- To effectively assess the effectiveness of the District's physical education program and Physical Education Plan, the District will provide on-going monitoring and evaluation using resources and data such as the Physical Education Curriculum Analysis (PECAT), results from the Physical Fitness Test (PFT), results from the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS), and CDE Facilities Best Practices recommendations, as well as create and implement a rubric for the accountability of Physical Education programs at each site, and create and implement accountability procedures for all stakeholders regarding the implementation of the Physical Education Strategic Plan.

The effectiveness of the program, nutrition, and fulfilling the new PE requirement in light of the return to a six-period day in the fall were areas of concern raised by the Board. It was also suggested that staff update the Board on the sustainability of the program, and the goals and expectations.

### Educational Services

#### **CONSENT**

- 3.1-C            California K-12 Physical Education Content Standards  
On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mrs. Hague the Board approved the adoption of the California K-12 Physical Education Content Standards by a vote of 7-0. Student Board member Fernandes was in agreement.

### Educational Services

#### **ACTION**

- 3.1-A            K-12 Physical Education Strategic Plan  
On a motion by Trustee Perry and seconded by Trustee Hague the

Board approved the K-12 Physical Education Strategic Plan with a vote of 7-0.

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

None

## **REPORTS**

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Cutter reported receipt of the following emails from May 12-May 15, 2008: from Carol Denton regarding EL coach position; from Jon Sherr regarding calendar and grievance; and from Shelley Masur regarding invitation to the family celebration from Girls, Inc.
- 2) Student Board Member Report - Astrid Fernandes reported that students celebrated the end of testing in the quad that included clubs, music, an inflatable boxing ring, bungee basketball, and teachers played kickball and musical chairs with the students.

The Senior Ball will be Friday at the Giftcenter Pavillion in San Francisco. AP teachers are holding informational meetings this week for all students interested in AP classes next year. Last Friday was “Polly Day” featuring Polynesian dancing in the gym. Sophomores held their “Tahiti Sweetie” dance in the gym and made \$2,000. The Pirate mural is complete and “it looks really good.” Seniors beat the faculty in their softball game last week. Special thanks to Mr. Hillman for helping the Associate Student Body with their purchase of a new sound system.

- 3) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim stated that some members of Cabinet attended the May Revise in Santa Clara today and heard some very good news. More specific information will be reported at the next Board meeting. The First Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting will be May 29, 4 pm at the District Office.

The District will once again participate at the Cherry Festival, Saturday, May 31. She encouraged the Board to sign up and join the District in sharing with the community many of our accomplishments and successes thus far with Measure B.

There was a BTSA induction and celebration on May 15 at the San Leandro Library. She praised Ms. Julianna Sikes for restoring a sense of purpose for the BTSA program, adding that the County and the Consortium has acknowledged the District for the success of our program.

Ms. Lim announced the following promotions and graduations:

Monday, June 9, Adult School and Lincoln, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 10:

- Bancroft Middle School, Burrell Field, 2:30 p.m.
- Muir Middle School, Burrell Field, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, San Leandro High School, Cal State University East Bay, 5 p.m.

4) Board Committee Reports

- City/District Liaison – Mrs. Hague reported that the committee met on May 15 and continued their discussion of Burrell Field and long-term maintenance, beyond the February 2009 deadline, of the San Leandro High School swimming pool.

The Superintendent reported that the District was considering a parcel tax for the November 2008 election. The City indicated that, at this point, they were not looking at a parcel tax for November, but may be considering a Public Safety Tax in 2010.

Regarding Redevelopment Agency Financial Assistance for the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade campus, City Manager John Jermanis commented that all funding requests would go through the City Council Finance Committee, noting that City staff was recommending going ahead with joint use of the gym facilities afterschool and on the weekends.

- Curriculum – Mrs. Hague reported that BCC met on May 13 and discussed the California K-12 Physical Education Content Standards and the 5 year-plan, and the 2008-2009 Gifted and Talented Program (GATE) Plan. The committee heard an update on the six-period day transition, summer school including summer music, adding that the math pilot program will be finalized in June.
- Facilities/Technology – Mrs. Cutter reported that the committee met on May 15 and reviewed the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade exterior color and landscape selection, and the Design Development Phase drawings for the Career Technical Education, which were brought forward to the Board tonight. They received an update on the San Leandro High School Library Expansion that included a proposed budget increase for a special foundation.

The committee discussed the Measure B Project Management Review. Mrs. Cutter suggested that a Board workshop be scheduled this summer focusing on Measure B projects. She asked and received consensus.

The committee discussed the tree removal, walkway and sign repair at Bancroft Middle School, noting that the field-maintenance machine for the field would be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Cassidy

suggested that an explanation regarding the tree removal be addressed in the school newsletter. Staff was directed to provide the letter for Bancroft that will go out in the newsletter.

- Finance – Mr. Richards reported that the committee met on May 13 and reviewed and discussed a fiscal recovery plan; however, it was determined that there was no need to bring it to the Board for consideration at this time.
- Parcel Tax Ad Hoc – Mr. Davis reported that the committee met on May 12 and provided feedback on the survey questions to be used to gauge public opinion about a possible parcel tax. They also reviewed recent parcel taxes that had passed in Alameda County and one that will be on the June 3, 2008, ballot. The Board will be discussing the various tax models at the May 20 Board meeting.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Ms. Perry requested that Consent Item 2.1-C, Acceptance of Personnel Report be pulled for clarification. Mrs. Cutter asked that 3.6-c, TeleParent Communications Contract and 3.7-C, Gifted and Talented Education Plan be pulled for clarification.

### Educational Services

- 3.2-C Acceptance of Donations
- 3.3-C Renewal of San Leandro Adult School Carl Perkins Career & Technical Education Grant Application
- 3.4-C Discard Textbooks that are old and unused at San Leandro High
- 3.5-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for Students E03-07/08, E18-07/08 and E19-07/08

### Business, Operations and Facilities

- 4.1-C Ratification of April 2008 Payroll
- 4.2-C Approve of Bill Warrants
- 4.3-C Adopt Resolution #08-25 to Declare Certain Equipment Surplus and/or Obsolete
- 4.4-C Adopt Resolution #08-26 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS)



- 4.5-C Renewal of Letter of Credit by Bank of Nova Scotia to Support Certificate of Participation (COP) Facilities and Construction
- 5.1-C San Leandro High School California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Consultant Services
- 5.2C Budget Transfer from the Measure B Financial Reserve to the San Leandro High School Library Expansion Project

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

#### Human Resources

- 2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report as Submitted

Mr. Isaac confirmed that the school year under Willie Brown should read 2008-2009. He also provided a brief clarification regarding the Willie Brown-Pre-Retirement Part-Time Employment process.

On a motion made by Ms. Perry, seconded by Mr. Richards, approval, the Board approved to Accept the Personnel Report as amended by a vote of 7-0.

#### Educational Services

- 3.6-C TeleParent Communications Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the TeleParent (The Parental Involvement Solutions) Programs for the 2008-2009 School Year

Mrs. Cutter asked for clarification regarding possible long-distance charges to parents' cell phones under Verizon because of the way the calls were routed.

Assistant Superintendent Cindy Cathey explained that TeleParent was replacing the previous company and that parents will be given the option of being informed by a text message, or voice mail to a cell phone or landline phone.

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board approved the TeleParent Communications Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and the TeleParent (The Parental Involvement Solutions) Programs for the 2008-2009 School Year by a 7-0 vote.

3.7-C Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Plan

Superintendent Lim addressed the questions raised by Mrs. Cutter through an email sent to her regarding the GATE program at Lincoln. Ms. Lim explained that Lincoln will receive their per pupil allocation for their four GATE-identified students. In addition, Ms. Cathey clarified that there are 11 facilitators who receive stipends in the District; however Lincoln does not have a facilitator, and that if a need arises, the site would have access to the facilitator at San Leandro High School.

Mr. Cassidy felt that given the small amount of GATE money the District receives, it might be in the best interest of the District to focus on professional training. In response, Mrs. Hague expressed the importance of continuing to support direct services to the students in the GATE program.

On a motion was made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mrs. Hague the Board approved the 2008-2009 Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program by a vote of 7-0.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Business Operations

4.2-A Resolution #08-27 Designating Representatives for East Bay Schools Insurance Group (EBSIG)

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Hague the Board adopted Resolution #08-27 designating Song Chin-Bendib as San Leandro Unified School District's official representative and Sukhi Kharia as alternate to attend the East Bay Insurance Group meetings by a 7-0 vote.

The Board took a break at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 9:15 pm.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### Business Operations

#### 4.1-D Tax Models for Parcel Tax

Prior to the discussion, President Davis noted that the Board had received the final survey questions with comments provided. A handout of the most recent parcel tax elections was also distributed.

Ruth Alahydoian from Kelly, Northcross, and Nobriga walked the Board through the tax analysis, noting that while the data being presented was from a couple of years ago, when the District went for parcel tax, for the most part the data was still very accurate.

Highlights included:

- Single-family Residential Per Parcel Tax: Not including seniors, a \$76 per parcel for approximately 13,000 single-family residential properties would generate approximately \$1 million
- Multifamily Residential Per Dwelling Unit Tax: \$38 (1/2 per parcel) would generate approximately \$345,192 (1,050 2-4 units, and 295 5+ units)
- Non-residential Per Square Foot of Parcel: An outside consultant would need to be hired to be sure that there was an accurate parcel assessment which would be an additional cost. Costs per parcel range from \$.01 to \$.02 a square foot which would generate approximately \$1.7 million for approximately 1,500 commercial and industrial properties.

Ms. Alahydoian cautioned; however, that with non-residential square footage some parcels can be very large, so the District may want to consider setting a maximum amount. In light of that, it was suggested that the District begin looking at commercial and industrial properties with the largest parcels and speak to those business owners regarding their position.

Ms. Alahydoian pointed out that, of the successful state-wide parcel tax elections, only Berkeley, Emery, Albany, West Contra Costa, and Mountain View-Whisman school districts based their parcel tax on square footage; Kentfield, Davis, and Piedmont had differentiated rates between the types of properties. Alameda Unified will have a Hybrid-Per Parcel and Per Square Footage parcel tax on the June 3 election.

It was the consensus of the Board to discuss the results of the survey questions and begin developing a plan at the next Board

meeting. The Board also directed the Superintendent to meet with the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce to receive input with regards to the parcel tax analysis and tax options.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### Business, Operations

#### 4.1-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$14,647,698.34 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

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

- Mrs. Hague reminded the Board that the Elementary Open Houses will be May 22, suggesting that they should touch base to be sure there is representation at each school site.
- Trustee Cutter attended the Ed. Services Conference and found it to be very informative, noting that it was suggested that providing more flexibility would be beneficial to districts' Block Grants.

She raised the suggestion of piloting an all-day Kindergarten at Washington Elementary School.

Mrs. Cutter asked for and received consensus to schedule a facilities workshop to discuss funding issues and a back-up plan, with the members agreeing that the Governor's lottery proposal as a long-term budget fix was not the answer.

Mrs. Cutter would like to see the meeting minutes not quite so long, adding that digital recordings are available for those wishing to hear the details.

In response to Mrs. Cutter's question regarding parent representation on the Budget Advisory Committee, the Superintendent explained that letters recruiting volunteers were distributed to all grade levels and that each grade level had representation on the committee. The Superintendent will forward the list to the Board.

- Ms. Perry reported attending the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly where the structural deficits in the state and educational funding were discussed.

She attended the BTSA Advisory Council and Colloquium, reporting that the mid-year feedback from the site visits was improved.

Mr. Perry also attended the DATE meeting where David Lorden, Director of Student Services shared information regarding strategies to confront such issues as increased drug use. The next meeting will be June 30.

Trustee Perry stated that a former classmate of hers, Dave Seymon, who survived after being in a coma for a year as a result of drunk driving while a student at San Leandro High School, has written a book and offered to share his story to high school students.

- Trustee Katz touched upon the state budget and referred to an article that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle about suspension rates in various schools, including San Leandro. He would like an update on the effectiveness of our discipline policy as we approach the end of the school year. He also would like more information on the EL program with regards to the EL coaches and funding.
- Mr. Richards attended opening night of Bancroft Middle School's performance of *Peter Pan*, adding that he hoped, in an effort to be more equitable, John Muir Middle School would have an opportunity to provide theatre productions in the future.
- Trustee Cassidy reported attending the performance of *Peter Pan* at Bancroft Middle School, and the Mayor's Educational Forum. He also favored Mrs. Cutter's suggestion of a full-day kindergarten program at Washington Elementary School.

He expressed his concerns and thoughts regarding the ratification of the SLTA contract, the state budget, and educating the parent community about the budget constraints, the San Leandro High School pool, and the lack of Communication Committee meetings this past year. He distributed a draft document of some concepts that he would like the Board to consider.

Mr. Cassidy also asked for consensus from the Board on a number of issues.

It was the consensus of the Board to have

- The Policy Committee will develop a draft policy on Educational Foundations
- Staff provide an update on safety issues, discipline (suspension), and gang awareness
- The Communication Committee discuss the feasibility and format of adding a master calendar to the District website

Consensus was not received from the Board to have

- A public discussion and presentation on the EL Coaches prior to making any decisions regarding the EL program
- Staff update the Board in open session on the Kindergarten Action Plan and efforts to increase enrollment by forty students

In response to Mr. Cassidy's request to have the Superintendent meet with Superintendent Byas of San Lorenzo Unified regarding what type of efficiencies could be created between the two districts on budgetary issues, the Superintendent said that Dr. Byas indicated it would be less than fruitful use of his time and therefore a meeting had not be scheduled; however there was consensus from the Board to have the Superintendent follow-up with Dr. Byas to clarify any unresolved issues with regards to possible savings for both districts by considering working together around health care benefits.

At 10:30 p.m. on a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board extended by public meeting to 10:40 p.m. by a 7-0 vote.

Regarding the suggestion to have a budget recovery and analysis discussion raised by Mr. Cassidy at the next meeting, Mr. Richards reiterated that he had reported that the Finance Committee had discussed a fiscal recovery plan at their recent meeting and felt that there was no need to bring it to the Board at this time. Staff also added that because of the budget timeline, the Adopted Budget would be presented on June 30 and that any revisions to the budget could be made after that time.

The Board adjourned to closed session at 10:40 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board returned to closed at 11:25 p.m. President Davis said the Board had been in closed session where no action was taken.

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Cutter, Clerk

