

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

June 30, 2008

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in special session on June 30, 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 6:10 p.m.)
Mrs. Lisa Hague, Vice President (arrived at 6:25 p.m.)
Mr. Ray Davis, President

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Christine Lim, Superintendent
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent
Byron Isaac, Assistant Superintendent
Cindy Cathey, Assistant Superintendent
Linda Pollard, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

- Emily Kaplan, District Grant Writer, addressed the Board in support for Superintendent Lim. She announced that the District received notification today that we have been awarded a \$3 million Multi-Year Gaining Early Awareness Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant which is designed to specifically increase the number of underrepresented students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. She credited the Superintendent and the District's equity work and academic achievement "that secured this grant."

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:05 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Title: Superintendent's Evaluation, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – significant exposure to litigation, Public Employee Appointment – Title: Assistant Principal, San Leandro High School, Conference with Real Property Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.(b), 54956.8, and 54956.9. The closed session was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

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

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board appointed Ron Polk as Assistant Principal at San Leandro High School by a 7-0 vote.
- On a motion made by Ms. Perry and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board ratified the Teamsters/Trades contract with the District by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board approved the agenda for the special meeting of June 30, 2008, by a 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATION

- * Bruce Lichtenberg, Area President, of Gallagher Benefit Services of California presented the Actuarial Valuation of the San Leandro Unified School District post-retirement benefit plan (other than pensions) as of July 1, 2007.

It was explained that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) released statement 45 establishing uniform accounting and financial reporting standards for state and local government entities related to post-employment benefits other than pensions, and that the required effective date for implementation of the standards for the District is the first fiscal year following December 15, 2007, which will be the 2008-2009 school year. Key points included:

- The District needs to evaluate the impact of funding the “Other Post Employment Benefits’ (OPEBs) or remaining pay as you go (unfunded)
- 2008/09 and future financials must reflect the Annual Required Contribution (ARC) and Net OPEB Obligation (NOO)
- Actuarial review needs to be completed at least every two years

The Board posed clarifying questions to further understand the information which was addressed by staff.

ACTION ITEMS

Business Operations

- 4.1-A Approve the GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation of Post Retirement Benefit Plan by APEX Management Group, a Division of Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.

On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation of Post Retirement Benefit Plan by APEX Management Group, a Division of Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. by a 7-0 vote.

PRESENTATION

- * Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, provided a presentation on the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget, which also included the Estimated Actuals for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Highlights included:
- The Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Adoption Budget reflects an operating surplus of \$395,844 in the General Fund Unrestricted; however the salary increase for Teamster/Trades has not been incorporated in the operating expenditures due to the timing of the settlement
 - The Budget includes the inter fund transfer of one-time money authorized by the Board, without which, the operating balance will be in deficit
 - Since the budget captures financial information at a point in time, the data will be updated throughout the fiscal year to reflect more accurate information

In addition to addressing general clarifying questions raised by the Board, staff responded to a series of questions that were raised by Mr. Cassidy regarding the breakdown of local revenue, District's deficit spending in 2008-09, compensation for the Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendents; and the amount spent in 2007/08 and allocated for 2008/09 on legal services and consultants (excluding legal counsel).

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held regarding the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board opened the public hearing regarding the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget by a 7-0 vote.

No comments were received from the audience.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Ms. Perry, the Board closed the public hearing regarding the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget by a 7-0 vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Business Operations

4.2-A 2008-2009 Adoption

A motion was made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Cutter to approve the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget.

Ms. Perry shared some insight to the adoption process, noting that unfortunately, the Board adopts a budget based on the assumptions at the time and before knowing what is going to happen in Sacramento, adding that the real test will be the 1st interim.

Mr. Cassidy suggested that new budget parameters be set such as allocating money from the ending fund balance unrestricted to Fund 17 for future uses i.e. negotiations.

He offered a substitute motion which was seconded by Mr. Katz to amend the adoption budget that was being proposed and allocate one-half of the ending fund balance currently in the Adoption Budget to Fund 17.

President Davis asked staff for clarification as to whether acting on such a motion this late in the process would be detrimental to the financial situation of the school district. While nothing is “set in stone”, Ms. Chin-Bendib recommended waiting until after the 2nd Interim because the books would be closed, immediate cuts would begin in January following the Governor’s proposed 2009-10 budget, and the ADA would be in.

Mrs. Cutter felt that because the Adoption Budget was due to the County on July 1, it would be very irresponsible to not pass this budget, and suggested that the District begin

working towards setting aside additional dollars in Fund 17.

Mr. Cassidy withdrew the substitute motion, and the Board took action on the original motion.

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Cutter, the Board approved the 2008-2009 Adoption Budget by a 7-0 vote.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Cutter reported receipt of the following emails from June 10 – June 27, 2008: from Derek Jung regarding equal access for flyer distribution at our schools; from Lori Watson regarding letter of support for Superintendent Lim; from Robin Michel regarding letter of support for Superintendent Lim; from Deborah Cox regarding need for Parcel Tax and timing of ballot measure; from Gerald Shovlin regarding Gifted Program, New York Times article; from Thomas Morse regarding Invitation to read his BLOG: “Evaluate Your School Administrator”; from Wafaa Aborashed regarding article regarding artificial turf; and from Mary Ann Valles regarding letter of support for Superintendent Lim.
- 2) Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent Lim reiterated the announcement that the District received a six-year, \$3 million GEAR UP grant from the federal government which will support AVID activities at both middle schools, and follow an entire cohort of seventh grade students through high school and graduation. In addition the funding will provide support for after school programs, interventions, professional development for teachers, community partnerships and visits to college campuses. The District was one of twenty-four nationwide to receive this award.

Ms. Lim shared a tentative flyer announcing the Oakland Raiders vs. Carolina Panthers “San Leandro Day with the Raiders”, November 9, 1 p.m. This fundraising opportunity will benefit both the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce and the District. Agencies will receive \$14 for every ticket sold, a 50/50 split between the Chamber and the District. She also announced that retro checks for 2007/08 were distributed to the San Leandro Teachers’ Association (SLTA) and the San Leandro Unified School District Management Association (SLUSDMA) on June 24, adding that it is anticipated that the California School Employees’ Association and Teamsters/Trades will be receiving their retro checks on July 29.

- 3) Board Committee Reports

- Finance – Other than the Adoption Budget which was approved tonight, Mr. Richards noted that there was nothing else to report.
- Policy- Ms. Perry reported that the committee met on June 25, 2008, and was bring forward proposed changes to Board Policy 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements; Board Policy 1325, Advertising and Promotion; and Board Policy 3312, Contracts for action, as well as for information AR 1325, Advertising and Promotion, and AR 3314, Payments for Goods and Services. The committee began their discussion on Education Foundations with Ms. Perry sharing some policies from other districts.

CONSENT ITEMS

General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – May 20, 2008
- 1.2-C Resolution #08-36, Authorizing Certain Persons to Draw Funds

Human Resources

- 2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report
- President Davis noted before the vote that position #788 of the classified employees' personnel report was being pulled; however, action would be taken on the remaining positions.
- 2.2-C Certificated Interns to Receive Preliminary Teaching Credential

Educational Services

- 3.1-C Non-Public School Contracts
- 3.2-C Consolidated Application, Part I for 2008-2009
- 3.3-C Proposed Changes to Board Policy 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements
- 3.4-C Proposed Changes to BP 1325, Advertising and Promotion

Business Operations

- 4.1-C Resolution #08-35 to Declare Certain Equipment Surplus and/or Obsolete
- 4.2-C Contract Between San Leandro Unified School District and Direct Computer Disposal (DCD)
- 4.3-C Consulting Service with Alameda County Office of Education Network Services (ACOENet)

Facilities and Construction

- 5.1-C Proposed Changes to Board Policy 3312, Contracts

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

ACTION ITEMS

Human Resources

- 2.1-A Job Description for Computer Technician Position

Mr. Katz was concerned about the District still using Windows 98, an obsolete operating system, which has no way of providing access control or security. Assistant Superintendent Song Chin-Bendib said that she would look into that. She also confirmed that the position was already part of the budget.

On a motion made by Mr. Katz and seconded by Mr. Richards, the Board approved the job description for the Computer Technician Position by a 7-0 vote.

Business Operations

- 4.1-A Resolution #08-32 Governing Board Elections – Specifications of the Election Order

Prior to the vote, Mrs. Cutter noted that the cover sheet for 4.1-A was incorrect, and that the Resolution number for all three resolutions should begin with #08-. It was noted that the corrections had already been made.

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board adopted Resolution #08-32 Governing Board Elections – Specifications of the Election Order.

4.2-A Resolution #08-33 Governing Board Elections – Candidates’ Statement of Qualifications

Ms. Perry thought the \$450 filing fee was low and wondered if this fee had come from the Alameda County Registrar of Voters Office. It was explained that the \$450 represented an estimate, and indicated that the candidates shall be refunded any overage or billed for any additional costs after the election.

On a motion made by Mr. Richards and seconded by Mrs. Hague, the Board adopted Resolution #08-33 Governing Board Elections – Candidates’ Statement of Qualifications by a 7-0 vote.

4.3-A Resolution #08-34 Governing Board Elections – Tie Vote Procedure

On a motion made by Mrs. Cutter and seconded by Mr. Katz, the Board adopted Resolution #08-34 Governing Board Elections – Tie Vote Procedure by a 7-0 vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Business Operations

4.1-D Parcel Tax

President Davis said that he placed this on the agenda to give the Board an opportunity to continue their discussion regarding the Parcel Tax, adding that he recollected that the Board agreed, at their last Board meeting, that the Ad Hoc Committee would meet and develop a plan for a possible future parcel tax and then strategize a timeline.

There was some discussion on whether the committee members on the ad hoc committee should remain the same in light of the upcoming election. Mr. Cassidy thought that the committee should be comprised of members who will definitely be serving as a Board member in 2009. Ms. Perry felt that it was the obligation of the current members of this committee to serve until they are no longer on the Board. In addition the Board shared their thoughts on what areas they would like the discussions to focus on.

It was decided that the agenda would concentrate on the level of and/or lack of community support that was identified the survey,

ways to engage the community, and the timeline.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Educational Services

3.1-I Proposed Changes to AR 1325, Advertising and Promotion

The Board received for information and review the revised AR 1325, Advertising and Promotion.

It was explained the changes made to this AR took into consideration the comments made by Derek Jung, Senior Pastor of the Fundamental Gospel Baptist Church, in his communication regarding equal access for flyer distribution. Ms. Perry added that further revisions could be expected.

Facilities and Construction

5.1-I Revised AR 3314, Payments for Goods and Services

The Board received for information and review the revised AR 3314, Payments of Goods and Services.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Mr. Katz extended an invitation to the screening of the movie, “Two Angry Moms” on July 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the San Leandro Library. The film is about two mothers who try to change the nutritional content of the school lunch program.
- Mr. Cassidy received consensus to his request to discuss budget priorities including creating guidelines and processes with regards to increasing reserves and new budget assumptions.
In light of the all the recent media attention with regards to the lead content in Astroturf fields, Mr. Cassidy asked that the Superintendent provide a statement regarding this issue, specifically addressing the Bancroft Middle School field.

Mr. Cassidy was also interested in receiving a current report regarding the seismic condition of the schools. Mrs. Cutter said that a status report on seismic retrofitting of the District was included in the original master plan (in 1997 or 1998) which was completed before the Measure A Bond, and received ratings based on a scale of 1-7. The Board directed staff to prepare a status report, with the Superintendent providing a brief summary to the Board.

Mr. Cassidy attended the Gay Pride Parade in San Francisco on Sunday, June 29, noting the many teachers and other contingents from the San Francisco school district were in attendance, suggesting that maybe a San Leandro contingent could participate in 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

Regular Meeting – July 15, 2008
Regular Meeting – July 29, 2008
Regular Meeting – August 5, 2008 (placeholder)
Regular Meeting – August 26, 2008
Regular Meeting – September 3, 2008 (Wednesday)
Regular Meeting – September 16, 2008
Regular Meeting – October 7, 2008
Regular Meeting – October 21, 2008
Regular Meeting – November 4, 2008
Regular Meeting – November 18, 2008
Regular Meeting – December 2, 2008
Special Meeting – December 8, 2008
(Swearing in and Reception for New & Re-Elected Trustees)
Special Meeting – December 11, 2008
Regular Meeting – January 8, 2009 (placeholder)
Regular Meeting – January 21, 2009 (Wednesday)
Regular Meeting – February 3, 2009
Regular Meeting – February 18, 2009 (Wednesday)
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2009
Regular Meeting – March 12, 2009 (placeholder)
Regular Meeting – March 17, 2009
Regular Meeting – April 21, 2009
Regular Meeting – May 5, 2009
Regular Meeting – May 19, 2009
Regular Meeting – June 2, 2009
Regular Meeting – June 16, 2009
Special Meeting – June 25, 2009 (placeholder)

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Mrs. Hague and seconded by Mr. Richards the Board adjourned the meeting at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Cutter, Clerk