

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

November 16, 2010

The Board of Education of the San Leandro Unified School District met in regular session on November 16, 2010, 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 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
Student Board Member, Jeff Engler

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT

Cindy Cathey, Superintendent
Song Chin-Bendib, Assistant Superintendent
Debbie Wong, Interim Assistant Superintendent
John Thompson, Ed.D., Senior Director II
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 6:00 p.m., the Board went into closed session for Student Expulsions, Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Hiring, Conference with Labor Negotiator, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigations – Significant exposure to litigation – 1 case, and Conference with Real Property Negotiator – Properties) pursuant to Education Code Sections 35146 and 48918(c), and

Government Code Sections 54957, 54957.6, 54956.9, and 54956.8. The closed session was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:06 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Katz-Lacabe said the Board had been in closed session where the following action was taken:

- On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the settlement agreement between San Leandro Unified School District and Pacific Gas and Electric by a 7-0 vote.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board approved the agenda for the regular meeting of November 16, 2010, by a 7-0 vote.

REPORTS

Parks & Recreation Commission Report: Juan Manuel Martinez, San Leandro Unified School District representative to the Parks & Recreation Commission, congratulated the District on the passage of Measure M.

He also provided the Board with an update including upcoming WW East Bay Parks Bond projects such as walkways, par course improvements, a dog park, irrigation; and graffiti. He also remarked on the increased number of visitors to the parks, noting that at the October meeting he suggested that more bicycle stands be available, thus encouraging visitors to ride their bikes.

Following his report Trustee Mack-Rose raised a concern with regards to night time generator use at Bancroft Middle School, if these questioning teams were authorized to use the field, and the impact to the neighbors. Trustee Cutter also raised a safety concern when more than one group is sharing the field.

PRESENTATIONS

- Superintendent Cindy Cathey shared highlights of the presentation that was made by Assistant Superintendent Song Chin-Bendib, San Leandro High School Principal Linda Granger and she entitled, "Smart Money: Why Education is Key to San Leandro's Economic Prosperity" as part of the Chamber of Commerce San Leandro By Design Initiative. The initiative is an opportunity to strengthen current and build new partnerships between the school district, the City, and the Chamber of

Commerce. The presentation included: key messages that were shared at the event, other presentations that were made, questions and responses from the audience, and next steps. She noted that the presentation was designed to “launch” the conversation. Key points included:

- Great schools create thriving communities and thriving communities create great schools
- Education, especially K-12, is critical to the economic success of individuals and our state as a whole
- Challenges for San Leandro Unified include inadequate funding and substantial budget cuts, understanding and educating the New Millennium student, raising achievement, and increasing community and business partnerships
- The need to strengthen current and forge new partnerships
- “Budiness” improve our schools with the help of caring adults to mentor or tutor a student, offering internships, providing job shadowing, and participating in Career Day to name a few.
- Keep the conversation going and partner with us to build stronger schools, increase student achievement, and transform our community
- District participation in this conversation is critical as we cannot (nor would we want to) do our work alone

A particular presentation that impressed the Superintendent came from two architect firms who shared what other cities and districts are doing. Highlighting the Emeryville Center of Community Life, it was noted that their presentation can be viewed on their website.

Trustee Katz-Lacabe, who also attended the meeting, commenting that it was a well received presentation, adding that the Superintendent represented the District very well.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Bancroft Middle School teacher Lisa Wong and counselor Stacey Ferreira addressed the Board regarding the last minute notice that reducing middle school counselors was being re-considered. Citing the many services they provide and how programs, such as the first Companion Success Night, would

be lost if counselors were not there, they urged the Board to keep the jobs of the middle school counselors in San Leandro.

Trustee Mack-Rose felt it was important to clarify that there were many cuts made back in July 1, 2010, to balance the budget, adding that reducing middle school counselors was not a new idea or proposal, reiterating that the Board is very concerned and does value the counselors.

REPORTS

- 1) Correspondence – Clerk Almonte reported receipt of the following emails between November 2, 2010, and November 15, 2010: From CSBA regarding, two “Weekly Updates from CSBA,” “November Annual Education Conference News, Election,” “Elections, Budgets and Prospects for Kids – Complimentary Webcast,” “Tell us about Community –engaged Schools,” “Call for Nominations”, and “Update on Delegate Assembly and Delegate Elections and Attendance at the Annual Conference”; from Deborah and Kevin Cox regarding “Eat Out for Education,” and “If you were thinking of purchasing a book this holiday season, please consider helping out SLHS libraries”; from Myrna Hernandez regarding two issues of “Washington Elementary/Parent Newsletter,” from Richard Fishbaugh regarding “Re: Measure M Wins”; from Stephen Cassidy regarding “Congratulations, Measure M passed”; from SL Education Foundation regarding “Eat Out for Education”; from Maureen Forney regarding “Measure M and Future Projects”; from Carol Delton regarding, “Consider CA Solar Initiative to Both Save and Raise Money for SLUSD”; from Anna Laubscher regarding “FW: District Technology Use Forms”; from Sheila Jordan regarding “Save the Date for the Art is Education and Freedom Bus Project”; and from Cynthia Vincent regarding “Arbitration Ends AC Transit Labor Dispute.”
- 2) Student Board Member Report - Student Board member Jeff Engler updated the Board on activities at the San Leandro High School main campus and the Fred T. Korematsu campus. Highlights included:
 - Homecoming events were very successful, with the senior class winning the spirit competition
 - The students are very excited about the passage of Measure M
 - The Associated Student Body is hosting a fundraising luncheon for the teachers on November 18, 2010
 - “Awkward Moments,” a one-act festival celebrating life’s embarrassing moments, began on November 15 and will run through November 18. Performances are held in Room 218 at the high school and begin at 7 p.m., with a matinee performance on November 16

- 3) Union Representative Reports – There were no reports.
- 4) Superintendent Report – Superintendent Cindy Cathey reported that
- She recently made a presentation to the Rotary and she will provide a copy of the PowerPoint to the Board members.
 - A tour of the Arts Education Center will be held on Thursday, November 18 at 1:30 p.m.
 - There will be a reception on November 29 honoring Trustees Cutter and Hague for their service on the Board at 6:15 p.m. The Board meeting will follow at 7 p.m.
 - We will be welcoming our appointed Board member Ron Carey, newly elected Board member Lance James and re-elected Board member Mike Katz-Lacabe at a reception on December 7, time to be determined.
 - She acknowledged Interim Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong, Student Support Services Director Sheila Lawrence and Student Outreach Coordinator Ali Cannon for the amazing job they did coordinating the distribution of more than 4,000 school supply kits (valued at approximately \$300,000) to our students that were donated by K to College. She asked that they be invited to a future Board meeting so they can be publicly acknowledged with a Certificate of Commendation.

5) Board Committee Reports

- Communication – Trustee Katz-Lacabe reported that the committee met on November 5, 2010, and discussed the November communications for the newspaper, press release for Measure M, reviewed the draft of San Leandro by Design presentation, reviewed a sample of Castro Valley Unified’s communication on budget news and discussed additional communication ideas.
- Facilities/Technology – Trustee Cutter reported that the committee met on November 4, 2010, and discussed Amendment #3 to the Division of the State Architects Inspector of Record Professional Services Contract with Jerome Zalinski for Multiple Measure B Projects, Final Change Order #2 to the West Coast Contractors Inc. Construction Contract for the Wilson Elementary School Heating and Roofing Project, Amendment #1 to WLC Architects Contract for Additional Design Services at the San Leandro High School Open Space (Business Academy) Project, Final Change Order #10 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction Inc. Contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus, which were being brought forward for Board consideration tonight. In addition, there was a discussion of other modernization projects and a preliminary discussion of Measure M.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2010.

5) Board Representatives' Reports

- Eden Area Regional Occupational Program – Trustee Almonte reported that the Council met on November 4, 2010, and approved Bill Warrants, the Personnel Action items, the Tech Prep Grant Funds for the 2010-2011 school year, and presented Student of the Month awards.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following Consent Items were pulled from the consent calendar:

- 3.4-C Agreement between San Leandro Unified School District and San Diego County Office Education for Cycle of Inquiry Facilitation/Professional Learning Communities within our Biliteracy Task Force for the 2010-2011 School Year (Trustee Mack-Rose)
- 3.7-C Limited Term Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and Margaret Kato for School Health Services for the 2010-2011 School Year (Trustee Sullivan)
- 3.9-C Memorandum of Understanding between San Leandro Unified School District and Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) for John Muir Middle School for 2010-2011 School Year (Trustee Mack-Rose)
- 5.2-C Final Change Order #2 to the West Coast Contractors Inc. Construction Contract for the Wilson Elementary School Heating and Roofing Project (Trustee Cutter)
- 5.4-C Final Change Order #10 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction Inc. Contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus (Trustee Almonte)

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

General Services

- 1.1-C Approval of Board Minutes – November 2, 2010

Human Resources

2.1-C Acceptance of Personnel Report

Educational Services

3.1-C Acceptance of Donations

3.2-C Non-Public School Contracts

3.3-C Memorandum of Understanding between the San Leandro Unified School District and Girl Scouts of Northern California to Provide "Girls Go Tech" Enrichment Classes at John Muir and Bancroft ASES Programs for the 2010-2011 School Year

3.5-C Out-of-Country Field Trip for San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus Students to Paris, France, April 9-16, 2011

3.6-C Memorandum of Understanding between Dyanna Christie, GEAR UP External Evaluator and Independent Contractor; CitySpan Technologies; and the San Leandro Unified School District

3.8-C Contract between the San Leandro Unified School District and Performance Fact, Inc. for Program Improvement Services for Woodrow Wilson Elementary School

3.10-C Recommendation to Continue the Expulsion Order for Student E26-09/10 who has Left the San Leandro Unified School District and We are Unable to Verify the Success of His/Her Expulsion Order

3.11-C Proposed Stipulated Expulsion Order for the Student E05-10/11

Business Operations

4.1-C Ratification of the October 2010 Payroll

4.2-C Approval of Bill Warrants

Facilities and Construction

5.1-C Amendment #3 to the Division of the State Architects Inspector of Record Professional Services Contract with Jerome Zalinski for Multiple Measure B Projects

5.3-C Amendment #1 to WLC Architects Contract for Additional Design

Services at the San Leandro High School Open Space (Business Academy) Project

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Educational Services

3.4-C Agreement between San Leandro Unified School District and San Diego County Office of Education for Cycle of Inquiry Facilitation/Professional Learning Communities with our Bilingual Task Force for the 2010-2011 School Year

Trustee Mack-Rose understood that these services would focus on schools with formal bilingual programs; however, wondered if schools with high bilingual populations such as McKinley and Monroe would benefit from this service.

Interim Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong explained that at this point, McKinley and Monroe were not part of this work, stating that adding sites to the program stems from need, based on Ed. Code, and parental requests. She did indicate; however, that our English Learner Task Force meets on a regular basis to address the needs of all English learners throughout the District.

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Hague, the Board approved the agreement between San Leandro Unified School District and San Diego County Office of Education for Cycle of Inquiry Facilitation/Professional Learning Communities with our Bilingual Task Force for the 2010-2011 School Year by a 7-0 vote.

3.7-C Limited-Term Contract between San Leandro Unified School District and Margaret Kato for School Health Services for the 2010-2011 School Year

Trustee Sullivan was concerned that having only one person to cover all of the screenings needed may not be adequate within the timeframe for completion. Interim Assistant Superintendent Debbie Wong explained that if this limited contract is approved, Ms. Kato would like to begin tomorrow, with the goal of completing the 15 days allotted by winter break. The Interim Assistant Superintendent also clarified that Ms. Kato's role would be to provide support to the current nursing staff with the vision and hearing screening.

Trustee Sullivan also raised a question regarding the free services available from Dr. Mark Alexander and the cost we will be paying for

the additional support for the nurses to complete their screening.

Superintendent Cathey explained that the Director of Student Support Services Sheila Lawrence has been in contact with Dr. Alexander, and that she would provide a summary of his services offered once they have met.

Regarding Trustee Sullivan's request to consider tabling this item until an update could be provided, Interim Assistant Superintendent Wong indicated that Health Services was proposing using their Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) reimbursements funds that they generate each year and the cost would not impact the General Fund.

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board approved the limited-term contract between San Leandro Unified School District and Margaret Kato for school health services for the 2010-2011 School Year by a 7-0 vote.

3.9-C Memorandum of Understanding between San Leandro Unified School District and Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) for John Muir Middle School for 2010-2011 School Year

Trustee Mack-Rose asked if plans to provide similar services at Bancroft Middle School had been considered. Interim Assistant Superintendent Wong indicated that they were looking at beginning the discussion in January 2011.

With the success of this program experienced by Muir last year, Trustee Mack-Rose Muir asked that staff provide data on how attendance, suspensions and the GPA of students who participated last year has been impacted.

On a motion made by Trustee Mack-Rose and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between San Leandro Unified School District and Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) for John Muir Middle School for 2010-2011 school year by a 7-0 vote.

Facilities and Construction

5.2-C Final Change Order #2 to the West Coast Contractors Inc. Construction Contract for the Wilson Elementary School Heating and Roofing Project

Trustee Cutter explained that this may not be the "final" change order and requested that "final" be removed from the recommendation.

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board approved the amended recommendation removing “Final” from Change Order #2 to the West Coast Contractors Inc. Construction Contract for the Wilson Elementary School Heating and Roofing Project by a 7-0 vote.

5.4-C Final Change Order #10 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction Inc. Contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus

Trustee Almonte raised concern regarding cracks that he observed in the exterior floors while on a tour of the Fred T. Korematsu campus.

Assistant Superintendent Song Chin-Bendib and Measure B Director Mike Murphy explained that there was a one-year warranty from the General Contractor on all materials and labor. In July 2011, one month before the warranty expires, a site walk through is planned, suggesting that the issue be addressed at that time and next steps be determined that would best serve the District.

On a motion made by Trustee Almonte, and seconded by Trustee Cutter, the Board approved the Final Change Order #10 to the Jeff Luchetti Construction Inc. Contract for the San Leandro High School Fred T. Korematsu Campus by a 7-0 vote.

CONFERENCE ITEM

Business Operations

4.1-CF Contract with BLX for Arbitrage Rebate Services for the District's General Obligation Bonds (Measure A and Measure B)

The Board discussed and considered approving the contract with BLX for Arbitrage Rebate Services for the District's General Obligation Bonds (Measure A and Measure B).

Assistant Superintendent Song Chin-Bendib explained that for every issue of tax-exempt general obligations bonds, the District is subject to various regulations and reporting requirements. One such requirement is that bond proceeds must be spent within three years of issue, and any proceeds not spent must be restricted to earning at or less than the arbitrage yield. “Arbitrage yield” is defined as the maximum interest rate for interest earning on the bond funds. Another major requirement is that any excess earnings, (any interest earnings over the arbitrage yield), must be rebated back to the IRS every five years. In order for the District to obtain these very

specialized set of arbitrage-related calculations, it is necessary to hire a professional compliance service provider or consultant so that the District can meet the IRS requirements with confidence. As a side-note, the Assistant Superintendent felt that, because of the District' due diligence, the funds were spent according to the law, and the District would not owe any arbitrage yield.

The Board thanked staff for providing further clarification.

On a motion made by Trustee Sullivan and seconded by Trustee Prola, the Board approved the contract with BLX for Arbitrage Rebate Services for the District's General Obligation Bonds (Measure A and Measure B) by a 7-0 vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Business Operations

4.1-I Miscellaneous Receipts

Miscellaneous receipts in the amount of \$9,968,850.34 have been deposited in the Treasury of Alameda County.

4.2-I Investment Report for September 2010

The Board received for information and review, the Investment Report for the month of September 2010.

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- Trustee Prola commented on the excellent and interesting presentation given by Superintendent Cathey and Assistant Superintendent Chin-Bendib to the San Leandro Chamber.

Trustee Prola asked and received consensus to refer an email sent to the Board suggesting that parents only need to sign the District Technology Use Form at the time the student is enrolled in school and not each year to the Policy Committee for consideration.

Referring to the survey from CSBA asking for information regarding the District's sex education program, Trustee Prola noted that while reviewing the information from Mike Walbridge, she discovered that there were several areas that needed to be reviewed and updated. She asked for and received consensus to refer this to the Curriculum Committee for consideration after the first of the year.

Trustee Prola raised a concern with regards to the lack of time spent on science, social studies, art, and music at the elementary level, noting that when she contacted an elementary school to ask if they would like some donated art supplies, she was told by the office staff that “they don’t do art anymore”. She asked staff to look into this and report back to the Board.

- Trustee Cutter commented that as a newly-elected San Leandro Councilmember, she is looking forward to sharing information between the City and District on issues that impact our schools such as plans for re-striping in the Washington Elementary School area, and a housing development plan in the Marina area.
- Trustee Mack-Rose commented that with the passage of Measure M, representatives from the San Leandro Sports Foundation are eagerly awaiting the “next steps.” She suggested that staff provide a presentation on Measure M outlining the process and timeline in January.

She reminded the Board of her request that a Board study session be scheduled around the film, “Race to Nowhere” and possible policy implications.

She asked that staff develop a public budget calendar in response to the Governor’s Budget that comes out on January 10, 2011.

- Trustee Sullivan would like to have Teneh Weller, Executive Director of High Expectations Parental Services, whose contract was recently approved by the Board, provide a program update. Interim Assistant Superintendent Wong stated that tentatively staff was looking at March 2011. She said that she could provide information in the *Confidentially Speak* in the meantime; however, Trustee Sullivan would like an update earlier than March, suggesting the Special Board meeting on November 29.

Staff felt that the 29th may be a little to soon, as only 3 out of the 9 sessions had been held; however, the December 7 meeting might be an option. Superintendent Cathey did report that she had an opportunity to visit one of the sessions last week, and there were 25 parents in the Spanish class and about 24 parents in the English class. She also observed Teneh working with the teachers for a session. The Superintendent suggested that in addition to updating the Board on the progress, the content of the curriculum could be shared.

Trustee Sullivan reiterated the importance of research report writing, and her suggestion she made while serving on the Curriculum Committee regarding writing across the grades in high school. Superintendent Cathey proposed that staff provide an update of our instructional initiatives and

progress to the Board Curriculum Committee (BCC) at their meeting on December 1 so that the committee can provide guidance on next steps to further the work in this area.

Trustee Sullivan also asked for an update on the Environmental Science curriculum that was recently adopted and if the course was reaching those students it was designed for.

Trustee Sullivan reported that, while the attendance was small for the San Leandro High School African American & Latino 3rd Annual Educational Summit Educational on November 6, the line up of speakers, panel members, and expert presenters was impressive, and well received.

Thursday, November 18, 7 p.m., is the Alameda County School Board meeting. at the Alameda County Office of Education. Joel Montero, Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) CEO will be speaking about how to avoid fiscal crisis. Also, Jody London, member of the Oakland Unified School District school board, will be bringing forward a resolution that impacts students using AC Transit.

- Trustee Almonte commented on the safety of students crossing the street during the morning hours at the intersection of Williams and Wayne Streets (near Wilson Elementary and John Muir Middle schools) and the ineffectiveness of the two existing stop signs at that location. He asked for consensus; however, it was noted that consensus was not required for the Superintendent to request a copy of the traffic study that was done on that intersection.
- Trustee Hague congratulated the new and re-elected Board members. She acknowledged Trustee Cutter as she begins her term on the City Council and was excited about the future of the relationship between the City and school. She expressed her delight regarding Measure M, and thanked the students for their support, demonstrating that they can become politically involved in a positive way and effect a positive change.

She announced that December 2 is the Lenny Williams concert at San Leandro High School and hoped that everyone could attend this fun-filled and impressive event.

- Trustee Katz-Lacabe announced that Monroe Elementary will be hosting a Holiday Boutique and was thrilled about the passage of the District's Measure M.

He congratulated the newly elected/appointed Board members, recognizing former school board members Bill Stephens, Stephen Cassidy (Mayor elect), Joyce Starosciak, Pauline Cutter, who served and/or will be serving on the

City Council, as they continue to improve the long-time relationship between the City and District.

Trustee Katz-Lacabe distributed information about the Board committees, and reminded the Board to think about their area of interest and fill out the form and bring it to the December 7 Board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Future Board of Education Meetings

Special Meeting – November 29, 2010

- **Reception for outgoing Board members – 6:00 p.m. – San Leandro City Hall**
- **Open Session – 7 p.m. City Council Chambers**

Regular Meeting – December 7, 2010

- **Reception for New and Re-elected trustees – 6:00 p.m.**
- **Swearing in of new and re-elected trustees – 7 p.m.**

Special Meeting – December 14, 2010 - 1st Interim

Regular Meeting – January 11, 2011

Tentative Work Session – January 18, 2011

Regular Meeting – January 25, 2011

Regular Meeting – February 8, 2011

Tentative Work Session – February 15, 2011

Regular Meeting – March 1, 2011

Tentative Work Session – March 8, 2011

Regular Meeting – March 15, 2011

Regular Meeting – April 5, 2011

Regular Meeting – April 19, 2011

Regular Meeting – May 3, 2011

Tentative Work Session – May 10, 2011

Regular Meeting – May 17, 2011

Regular Meeting – June 7, 2011

Regular Meeting – June 21, 2011

Special Meeting – June 28, 2011 – Adoption Budget

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Trustee Cutter and seconded by Trustee Almonte, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hermey Almonte, Clerk