

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
REGULAR MEETING  
February 14, 2001**

**CALL TO ORDER/CLOSED SESSION**

The Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts' Board of Education met today in the Board Room of the Santa Barbara School Districts' Administration Center, 720 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California. Claire VanBlaricum called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Camilla Cohee, Santa Barbara News-Press reporter, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members** Claire VanBlaricum, President  
**Present:** Robert Noël, Vice-President  
Ruth E. Green, Member  
Nancy Harter, Member  
Fred Rifkin, Member

**Staff** Deborah Flores Ph.D., Superintendent  
**Present:** Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent  
Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations  
Charleen Kirkman, Controller  
Julie Medina, Secretary to the Superintendent

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board met on the following in Closed Session:

- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54957)** *Personnel matters, to include: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.*
- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54954.5): Superintendent's Contract**
- **STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Education Code 48918 and Government Code 54962)** *Expulsion Case No. 00/01-19. The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parent or student requests an Open Session.*

President VanBlaricum announced that the Board had taken action to send release letters to twenty-one temporary and probationary teachers in the Elementary District.

**Moved:** Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Claire VanBlaricum asked for clarification regarding the Closed Section action taken at the January 31 Special Board Meeting. The motion should read as follows: That the Board of Education uphold the Level IV decision by the Superintendent in response to the Sandra Jones complaint.

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Minutes of January 24, 2001 (Regular Meeting) and January 31, 2001 (Special Meeting), as amended.

**Moved:** Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Robert Noël **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**RECEIPT OF GIFTS**

■ **MOTION:** To receive with appreciation the donation to the Santa Barbara Elementary School District and Santa Barbara High School District from Hobar Gallery, Inc., Nevill M. J. Cramer, David C. Fainer, Jr., Village Properties Realtors, Susan Carrera, Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Currey, Carol Ostroff, Mr. Hernandez & Ms. Still, Lori Lewis, S.B.

Bank & Trust, Condor Engineering, Inc., Mobile Foot Care, State & A restaurant, Peabody's Restaurant, Lidia Herrera, Kimberly Schizas, Lauren Weinsieder, Linda Vogel, and Hendrix Manufacturing.

**Moved:** Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Juanita Carney, McKinley Elementary School principal, introduced and recognized McKinley teacher Beth Yeager. Ms. Yeager was selected as a Carnegie Scholar in the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning program.

### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

None

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Fred Rifkin acknowledged receipt of a letter from Len Atkins, substitute teacher, requesting that substitutes receive the same pay increase and retroactive pay as other employees.

Claire VanBlaricum acknowledged receipt of a memo from the California School Boards Association announcing settlement on special education funding.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ken Loch addressed the Board regarding Project Tennisance.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Deborah Flores pulled item B.6 (Approval of Architectural Services -- Kruger, Bensen, Ziemer (KBZ); tBP Architects; WLC Architects) from the agenda as staff needed to do additional research.

Fred Rifkin requested confirmation that under Item B.11 (Approval Of Agreements With The City Of Santa Barbara For An After-School Recreation Program) that these are two different programs with two different funding sources. Staff responded in the affirmative.

Items B.2 and B.10 were removed for discussion purposes.

#### **■ MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda, as amended:

- B.1 Recommended Personnel Actions
- B.3 Warrants
- B.4 Declaration of Miscellaneous Equipment as Surplus to the Needs of the Districts
- B.5 Acceptance of Completed contract -- Asphalt Resurfacing -- Franklin School Playground
- B.7 Employment of Teacher for the 2000-2001 School Year on Waivers Issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing
- B.8 Approval of Submission of the Santa Barbara School District Early Childhood/Healthy Start Grant Proposal to the Children and Families Commission for Proposition 10 Funding for 2001-2002
- B.9 Approval of Submission of the Santa Barbara School District Operational Grant Proposal for La Cumbre Middle School to the California Department of Education for Funding 2001-2004
- B.11 Approval of Agreements with the City of Santa Barbara for an After-School Recreation Program
- B.12 Denial of Liability Claim, District Case No. 2000/01-03

**Moved:** Ruth Green **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

### **B.2 PURCHASE ORDERS**

Staff responded to Nancy Harter's questions regarding P.O. #16835, for SMHS Auditorium architectural services (Measure V) by KBZ Architects. Staff will come back with a report on these services.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period January 18, 2001 through February 7, 2001, with the exception of P.O. No. 16835.

**Moved:** Fred Rifkin    **Seconded:** Nancy Harter    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**B.10    APPROVAL OF SCHOOL LIAISON PROBATION OFFICER FOR SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Robert Noël requested discussion on this item with respect to Bruce Rittenhouse's concerns regarding the connection between the juvenile justice system and the school system.

Bruce Rittenhouse addressed the Board regarding the need for the schools to exhaust all efforts, as outlined in the Education Code, before getting involved with the criminal justice system, the lack of money going to the public defenders office, and the need to find out why students are truant.

Superintendent Flores recommended that staff come back with a presentation on the truancy grant and all the aspects of the program. Board discussion followed. This item will be on the next agenda.

**C.1    VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT -- IMPLEMENTATION GRANT**

Deborah Flores introduced Joan Stuster who gave a brief presentation on the grant and responded to Board Member questions. This item will be on the next agenda for action.

Ken Loch addressed the Board in support of the arts and stressed its importance to the educational system.

**C.2    RESOLUTION TO ADOPT CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (C.S.B.A.) GOVERNANCE STANDARDS**

Claire VanBlaricum reported that the Governance Standards have been developed by the California School Boards Association in an effort to more clearly define and give guidance to school board members as to the role of individual board members and boards as a whole. She indicated that Dr. Noël had submitted written comments.

Board discussion followed. As there was not Board support on this item, Ms. VanBlaricum indicated that she may bring this item back in June, after Board Members have had time to think about it further.

**C.3    MATH TEXTBOOK ADOPTION**

Deborah Flores reported that at the elementary level, Board Members, principals, and some teachers have asked if the math textbook adoption could be moved up a year. Using an overhead, she reviewed, for the Board, Factors to Consider in Deciding Whether to Move the Math Textbook Adoption Up a Year which included finances, issues involved in implementing two programs, is there a compelling reason to do so, and the selection process.

Superintendent Flores recommended that the math adoption process not be moved up at the elementary level.

For the secondary level, Mike Couch reviewed finances, challenges for the algebra graduation requirement for 2004, and state instructional material adoption criteria.

Superintendent Flores recommended that the adoption process in the junior high schools/middle school level be moved up but not at the high school level.

The following math teachers in the District were opposed to moving the math textbook adoption process up a year: Jim Holmes (Dos Pueblos), Tracy Thompson (San Marcos), Jerry Chiu ( La Cumbre), Jerolyn Fikes (La Colina), and Kelly Baeza (San Marcos).

Board discussion followed. Staff will come back with other suggestions/ideas as well as research the possibility of piloting a program for next year, as well as obtaining input from the publishers and math departments at the individual schools.

A five-minute break was taken at 9:37 p.m.

#### **C.4 BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Deborah Flores stated that the purpose of this item was to give the Board some basic preliminary information about the budget. Using overheads, she reviewed unique features and factors affecting the budget -- 2 district funding levels, different enrollment patterns, same salary schedule for K-12, steady increase in the cost of step and class increases, significant increase in the special education encroachment, increase in utilities and property/liability insurance, transportation expenditure breakdowns, and the cost of a 1% salary increase. Charleen Kirkman reviewed the 3-year budget projection for both districts. Board discussion followed.

#### **C.5 BOARD AGENDA MANAGEMENT AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Claire VanBlaricum reported that she and Superintendent Flores had met to review and prioritize the list of agenda items that needed to be addressed by the Board and/or items that individual Board Members requested be discussed. Per Fred Rifkin's suggestion, and Board consensus, it was determined that a third meeting be added per month until the list of items that needed to be discussed were completed. In addition, an effort will be made to discuss these items under a "time certain" manner.

#### **C.6 BOARD POLICIES REGARDING REDUCING THE RISK OF LITIGATION REGARDING THE BROWN ACT AND PUBLIC RECORDS ACT**

This item was continued to the next Regular Board Meeting.

#### **D.1 BOARD FOCUS GOALS**

Deborah Flores reported that the Board had developed Focus Goals during a Special Board Meeting on January 16, 2001. A subcommittee of Claire VanBlaricum, Ruth Green, and Deborah Flores met and developed a draft of the Focus Goals developed at that meeting, which were attached to the agenda. Board Members discussed and further revised the proposed Goals.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt the Board Focus Goals for 2001, as revised.  
**Moved:** Nancy Harter    **Seconded:** Ruth Green    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

#### **D.2 LAYOFF OF INTERPRETER/HEARING IMPAIRED EMPLOYEE IN THE STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education authorize the layoff of an Interpreter/Hearing Impaired employee in the Student Services Department.  
**Moved:** Fred Rifkin    **Seconded:** Nancy Harter    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

#### **D.3 EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOLS (AB2882)**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education accept the Education Technology grants for each high school in the Santa Barbara High School District.  
**Moved:** Nancy Harter    **Seconded:** Ruth Green    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**D.4 OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL AND EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF \$500**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board approve the out-of-state travel and/or expenses in excess of \$500 for Leo Castillo, La Cumbre Middle School computer technician; Sandy Robertson, SBJHS teacher; Maryanna Gray, District GATE Coordinator; and Marcene Newman, SMHS teacher.

**Moved:** Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**D.2 STUDENT EXPULSIONS**

In Closed Session, the Board discussed student expulsions. In Open Session, the following action was taken:

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2000/01-19 (High School District) – That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation to expel for one school year and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan, as amended (student may remain on home/hospital schooling through the end of the semester and the anger management counseling is increased to 20 sessions, instead of 10) . The student may petition for readmission to the District for the semester beginning Fall, 2001 at San Marcos or Santa Barbara High School.

**Moved:** Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**E. COMING EVENTS**

March 23, 2001 -- Annual fundraiser dinner for the Santa Barbara Public Education Fund

**F. BOARD COMMENTS**

None

**G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, February 28, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Claire VanBlaricum, President  
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education  
on \_\_\_\_\_