

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 28, 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 7:13 p.m. John Bentley, Student Board Representative, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members** Claire VanBlaricum, President  
**Present:** Robert Noël, Vice-President  
Ruth E. Green, Member  
Nancy Harter, Member  
Fred Rifkin, Member (arrived at 6:45 p.m.)  
John Bentley, Student Board Representative

**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.*
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Government Code 54956.9a):** *Case No. SN 1890-00.*
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Government Code 54956.9a):** *Case No. SN 1370-98, Case No. SN 1389-98, and W & D File No. 0640-0047*
- **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code 54956.8)** *The Board will give direction to its negotiator, Howell, Moore and Gough, Attorneys at Law, regarding property adjacent to Washington School on the East line of Meigs Rd., approximately 350' south of the intersection with Elise Way in the incorporated City of Santa Barbara in the area commonly known as "The Mesa".*

President VanBlaricum announced the following Closed Session actions:

- **MOTION:** That the Board accept the terms of settlement agreement in Case No. SN 1890-00.  
**Moved:** Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green  
**Ayes:** 4 **Noes:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Fred Rifkin

In compliance with the Brown Act, President VanBlaricum read the substance of the settlement as follows:  
*The Board has approved a settlement with the parents of a Santa Barbara High School District student in Case No. SN 1890-00. The student is a child receiving special education services under the Federal and State Special Education laws which both impose a very high degree of confidentiality on matters regarding students. The substance of the settlement includes payment to the student's parents of the sum of \$150,000 in settlement of all claims they had or may have against the District and the Santa Barbara County Special Education Local Planning Area. The parents will dismiss their pending special education case and the parties have agreed that all terms with the settlement are confidential to the extent permitted by law. If anyone wishes a full copy of the settlement*

*agreement, pursuant to the Brown Act and the Public Records Act it is available upon written request. Such request should be directed to the Superintendent's Office.*

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education give direction to legal counsel to cooperate with the Special Education Planning Area (SELPA), in an appeal pursuant to Case Numbers SN 1370-98, SN 1389-98, and W & D File No. 0640-0047.

**Moved:** Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green

**Ayes:** 4 **Noes:** 0 **Abstain:** 0 **Absent:** Fred Rifkin

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Fred Rifkin requested a correction to the minutes of the March 9, 2001, Special Meeting. He was marked present when, in fact, he was absent for that meeting.

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Minutes of March 9, 2001 (Special Meeting) as corrected and March 14, 2001 (Regular Meeting).

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

### **RECEIPT OF GIFTS**

■ **MOTION:** To receive with appreciation the donations to the Santa Barbara Elementary School District and Santa Barbara High School District from Jack Gresser and Barbara Franklin.

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

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Deborah Flores introduced Michael Gonzalez, La Cumbre Middle School principal, who in turn introduced and recognized teacher Jerry Chiu, who was selected as the recipient of the Santa Barbara Rotary Club's 2000-2001 middle school teacher award.

The Superintendent and Board Members reported on activities they had been involved in during the last two weeks.

### **STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

John Bentley, Dos Pueblos High School student, reported on current events at the three high schools.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Claire VanBlaricum reported receipt of a letter from the California School Boards Association announcing that she had successfully been re-elected to CSBA's Delegate Assembly. Mrs. VanBlaricum thanked the Board for their nomination and support.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda items were discussed individually due to the number of items pulled by Board Members for discussion purposes.

#### **B.1 RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the recommended actions for those persons listed on the attachment to the agenda.

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

## **B.2 PURCHASE ORDERS**

Staff responded to Robert Noël's request for more information regarding P.O. No. 12142, Allied Micro Graphics for Records Scanning.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period March 8, 2001 through March 21, 2001.

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

## **B.3 WARRANTS**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the warrant listings as indicated in the attachment to the agenda.

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

## **B.4 ANNUAL APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF EDUCATION CODE SECTION 49950 -- MEALS FOR SUMMER SCHOOL IN THE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the request for a waiver of Education Code 49950.

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

## **B.5 AGREEMENT FOR SERVICE BETWEEN THE SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DECISION RESEARCH**

For several years, the District has employed the services of Decision Research to provide a follow-up study of the high school graduates. Robert Noel questioned how this information was used and whether or not it was needed. Superintendent Flores stated that she would contact the principals at the high schools and bring this item back on the next future meeting.

## **B.6 ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 00/01-27, EXPENDITURE TRANSFERS**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 00/01-28, Expenditure Transfers.

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

## **B.7 APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA SERVICES BETWEEN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EDUCATION OFFICE AND CLEVELAND SCHOOL**

Regarding agenda items B.7, B.8, B.9, and B.13, Sarah Griffin voiced her concern on whether or not the Districts limited resources are being distributed in an equitable fashion among the schools. Should the services listed on the agenda for specific schools be provided for the other schools and can the District afford to provide them for other schools.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Agreement for Instructional Media Services between Santa Barbara County Education Office and Cleveland School.

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

## **B.8 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CABINETRY, SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY ACADEMY SCHOOL**

In response to Sarah Griffin's concerns, Deborah Flores reported that all the bond money allocated for the Academy has not been spent. She further explained that as schools are being renovated, one of the items reviewed is cabinetry. Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations, also explained that the individual schools have an opportunity once a year to submit requests for additional furniture needed at their schools.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education award a contract in the amount of \$22,825 to J. W. Bailey Construction for cabinetry at Santa Barbara Community Academy.

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

**B.9    AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR NEW GATE AND FENCING, ROOSEVELT SCHOOL AND RECOMMENDATION TO PAINT THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING LIBRARY AND MULTI-USE ROOM**

Robert Gonzalez explained that the gate was part of the original plan for the building. He reported that Roosevelt has had extensive vandalism over the last year, particularly with plants and vegetation being pulled out. The fence in an effort to secure the area. Superintendent Flores also reported that the damage by skateboarders is also taking its toll on the area. Robert Gonzalez stated that access to the playground will still be available off of the parking lot.

Fred Rifkin reminded staff that for the last two years, he has voiced the opinion that when the project is finished, any left over money be should returned to the taxpayers. He requested a complete accounting on the money spent on the project at a future meeting.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education award a contract in the amount of \$24,386 to Viola, Inc. for a new gate and fence at Roosevelt School and approve staff's recommendation to paint the Administration Building library, and multi-use room.

**Moved:** Ruth Green    **Seconded:** Robert Noël    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**B.10    ENVIRONMENTAL OVERSIGHT AGREEMENT, SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY ACADEMY**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve contract services for Penfield and Smith for civil engineering at Santa Barbara Junior High School fields in the amount of \$24,660.

**Moved:** Ruth Green    **Seconded:** Robert Noël    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**B.11    ADDITIONAL FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2000-2001 SCHOOL YEAR**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the additional fundraising activities for Goleta Valley Junior High School for 2000-2001.

**Moved:** Ruth Green    **Seconded:** Robert Noël    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**B.12    APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR PROGRAM EVALUATION BETWEEN ROBERT E. POHL AND SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Robert Noël stated that he was pleased that a program evaluation will be done at Franklin and that it was being done by Dr. Pohl.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Contract for Program Evaluation between Robert E. Pohl and the Santa Barbara Elementary District.

**Moved:** Robert Noël    **Seconded:** Fred Rifkin    **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

**B.13    APPROVAL OF CONTRACT BETWEEN STRATEGIC CHANGE ASSOCIATES AND THE SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Fred Rifkin expressed concern on how decisions are made for requests from individual school sites for strategic planning as well as concerns on the amount of money being spent on this project. Nancy Harter also expressed her understanding that most strategic planning was handled through school site councils and asked if someone in the District could act as facilitator. In response, Superintendent Flores stated that there are unique issues at the Academy due to the fact that they are a new school trying to develop a mission/vision. In the past, when a school has requested strategic planning the superintendent has approved the request and brought the request to the Board for approval. It was the consensus of the Board to delay action on this item until the next Board Meeting, when staff can bring back more information.

**C.1 APPROVAL OF REVISION OF BP 6162.5 AND AR 6162.5, STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

Deborah Flores reported that the District is required to amend the Student Assessment policy to include some information about the high school exit exam and to authorize non-standard accommodations for the administration of STAR to English Language Learners who have been in the District for less than 12 months. This item will be on the next agenda for action.

Ruth Green questioned the wisdom of continuing with the Golden State Exams in light of all the assessment test currently in place. Staff will come back with a report on the Golden State Exams at a future meeting.

**C.2 BOARD POLICY 7310 -- NAMING OF A FACILITY -- FIRST READING**

Deborah Flores reported that three schools have come before the Board for approval of additional fundraising to help augment their allocation of bond funds. These schools are interested in naming portions of their facilities after major donors and legal counsel has advised us that a policy needed to be in place before doing so. After the policy is adopted, a resolution will have to be adopted naming the individual sites. This item will be on the next agenda for action.

**C.3 BUDGET STATUS AND UPDATE**

Deborah Flores gave a brief update on the projected budget for 2001-2002. Included in the projection is a significant increase in utilities and health and welfare.

A ten-minute break was taken at 8:20 p.m.

**D.1 REQUEST FROM MONROE PARENTS TO HOUSE 6TH GRADE STUDENTS AT MONROE**

Deborah Flores provided an overview on why this item was before the Board. She reviewed for the Board and audience, using overheads, *Issues to be Considered Regarding Housing 6th Graders at the FeederElementary Schools versus Housing 6th Graders at La Cumbre Middle School*. At the conclusion of her presentation, Superintendent Flores recommended that the District 1) provide one 6th grade classroom per school for up to 30 students per school. Students would be selected by lottery; and 2) Over the next six months, as part of the master planning process, study the issue of moving 6th grades back to the elementary level versus maintaining a middle school program at La Cumbre Middle School for subsequent years.

The following La Cumbre Middle School students spoke in support of the school's sixth grade program: Nick Mason, Rebecca Hornemann, Dana Stuster, Monique Couture, Michelle Couture, Ana Couture (mother), Alexandra Wilson, Zoe Pastermack-Marsh, Gray Chadwick, and Amanda Coyle.

Adults speaking in support of the La Cumbre Middle School program and the need to keep 6th graders at the school were: Rick Wilson, Anna DeVore, Ann Chestnut, Laura Baker, Marcia Lammers, Susan Stroud, Grace Riggs, Joe Guzzardi, Linda Curtiss, Joan Stuster, Pam Morgensen, Trish Reynoso.

Members of the audience addressing the Board in favor of returning 6th grade students to Monroe and allowing "choice" were: Margie Yahyavi, Richard A. Yee, Alice Post, Rosanne Crawford, Kate Moore, Irene Ehritt, Bruce Klobucher.

Adams School teachers addressing the Board against returning 6th graders to their school due to fact that the school is currently dangerously overcrowded as well as concern for traffic safety were: Jackie Lapkin, Laura Wilson (PTA President).

Sarah Griffin addressed the Board in support of the Superintendent's recommendation.

Mary Kirkpatrick voiced her opinion that placement of 6th graders should be an extension of the master planning process.

A five-minute break was taken at 9:52 p.m. Board discussion followed. At the conclusion of Board discussion, President VanBlaricum asked Superintendent Flores if she had any final remarks. Dr. Flores stated that the only thing she would modify would be to exclude Adams School from the recommendation, as the other three schools have the classrooms available where Adams does not.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the creation of a sixth grade classroom at Monroe, Harding and McKinley for the school year 2001-2002, with a maximum of 30 students per classroom and a minimum of 22 students to attribute a program. Should the classes be over subscribed, a lottery will be held.

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

## **D.2 MASTER PLANNING**

This item was moved to the next agenda.

## **D.3 REVISED CONTRACT FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the revisions to the Superintendent's contract.

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

## **D.4 FIELD TRIP -- DPHS/RENO, NEVADA**

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the April 26-29, 2001, field trip for the Dos Pueblos High School Jazz Band A & B.

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

## **D.5 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 Carol Soltysik, Goleta Valley Junior High School teacher and Sandra Robertson, Santa Barbara Junior High School teacher.

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

## **E. COMING EVENTS**

April 9, 2001 -- City Council/Board Joint

April 17, 2001 -- Special Board Meeting (Math Study Session)

Deborah Flores reminded the Board that a date needed to be selected for the Board to visit Ramona Elementary School in Oxnard for the purpose of viewing modular classroom buildings. She asked that Board Members let her secretary know dates that they would be available. In addition, Dr. Flores reported that interviews were being scheduled for the Santa Barbara Community Academy principal (April 10 and 11) and the Research and Evaluation director (April 24 and 25) and asked for Board representation on the interview committees. Robert Noël and Claire VanBlaricum will be on the Research and Evaluation interview committee and Ruth Green and Nancy Harter will be on the Academy interview committee.

## **F. BOARD COMMENTS**

None

## **G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Nancy Harter reported that she had attended the last DELAC meeting and requested an agenda item to discuss appointment of a Board representative to the DELAC committee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Claire VanBlaricum, President  
Board of Education

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