

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
REGULAR MEETING
September 25, 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 6:00 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Karen Cooksey, Director of Elementary Curriculum, 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, Secondary Instruction
Diana Rigby, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Instruction
Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations
Lori Parrish, Director of Fiscal Services
Brian Sarvis, Director of Research and Technology
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.*
- **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Government Code 3549.1 and 54957.6)** *Conference with Labor Negotiator, Superintendent: Negotiations with the Santa Barbara Teachers Association.*
- **STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Education Code 48918 and Government Code 54962)** *Expulsion Case Nos. 01/02-1, 01/02-2. The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parent or student requests an Open Session*

President VanBlaricum reported that no action was taken in Closed Session.

RECEIPT OF GIFTS

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

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Karen Cooksey, Director of Curriculum, introduced and recognized Barbie Evans (teacher and reading coach) for her 53+ years of services to the District.

Karen Cooksey and Mike Couch introduced and recognized Michelle Humboldt (Santa Barbara High School teacher), for her nine years as Mentor Teacher Coordinator, a program which "sunssets" at the end of this school year and 29 years of service in the High School District.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Danielle Kravitz, San Marcos High School student, reported on current events at the three high schools.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

B.1 SELECTION OF ADDITIONAL INDICATORS FOR ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS ACCOUNTABILITY MODEL (ASAM)

Mike Couch, Assistant Superintendent, stated that the Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM) is the next phase of the State's accountability program. In order for the La Cuesta sites, the Independent Study Program, and the Community Day School to participate in the ASAM, two additional performance indicators need to be selected and approved by the Board, in addition to the Star 9 program.

Board questions/comments followed.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Additional Indicators to allow the four La Cuesta sites, the La Cuesta sites Independent Study Program, and the Community Day School to participate in the Alternative Schools Accountability Model (ASAM).

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

B.2 OUT-OF-STATE-TRAVEL AND EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF \$500

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve out-of-state travel for Child Development personnel: Maureen Earls, administrator; Charlotte Alton, head teacher; Susan Ashlock, head teacher; and Jennie Martinez, head teacher.

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

B.3 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-01 (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. The student may petition for readmission to the District for the semester beginning September 2002.

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

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-02 (High School District) – That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel's recommendation to expel with the exception of reducing the expulsion to a semester and suspending enforcement and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan.

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

C.1 PROPOSAL FOR A PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE CREATION OF THE SANTA BARBARA ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Deborah Flores reported that members of the Open Alternative School community are proposing a one-year planning process for the creation of an alternative high school program. This program will reflect the continuation of the essential practices that have made OAS a successful K-8 school, begin in September 2002, and be housed on an existing high school campus.

Board discussion focused on: cost, timeline for progress reports, Board approval of the final program, and the need to review the broad needs of the high school district and the underserved population.

Members of the public endorsing the proposal and urging the Board's approval were: Tyler Kotowski, Diana Zapata Kotowski, Dr. Michele Britton Bass, Lowell Boardman, Michele Harris-Padron.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve a one-year planning process in the creation of an alternative high school program with a start date of September, 2002, to include an authorization of funding for up to \$50,000 for the hiring of an administrator and other costs related to the creation of this alternative high school or program. The Board will hear this matter twice, once for conference and once for action, and not later than the end of March.
Moved: Fred Rifkin **Seconded:** Robert Noël **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

C.2 REPORT ON GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA), WEIGHTED GRADES AND CLASS RANKING

Deborah Flores stated that some parents have expressed concern about the new system of computing GPA and class rank, which resulted in staff reviewing the matter. Mike Couch reviewed the history of the weighted grade (which was adopted in 1979) and Brian Sarvis reviewed the two procedures used for calculating weighted grades (SASI and Huntington) and class rank.

Board discussion/comments followed.

In order to not penalize current seniors and juniors, staff recommends listing both grade calculations on the transcripts and include an explanation and that for freshman and sophomores, continue to use the one point added system.

C.3 ELEMENTARY RETENTIONS REPORT

Karen Cooksey, Director of Elementary Curriculum, reported that two years ago the State legislature adopted legislation requiring school districts to establish a promotion and retention policy. A committee was formed and a district policy developed. She reviewed for the Board the number of students retained, the number of students recommended for retention but promoted at the request of the parent, the criteria on which the retentions were based, and the principals' plans for improving performance of at-risk students.

Board discussion focused on parent involvement in the process, the parents right to waive the recommendation to retain, earlier intervention. Staff will review the guidelines regarding the parents waiver and report back to the Board.

C.4 BOARD ELECTIONS: PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

This item was postponed until the October 10 Board Meeting.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Item D.12 was pulled for discussion.

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

D.2 Purchase Orders

D.3 Warrants

D.4 Approval of 2000/01 Unaudited Actual Financial Reports and 2001/02 Revised Budgets

D.5 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2001-2002 School Year

D.6 Approval of California of Education Funding Proposal for 2001-2002 for Require dend of Grant Activities for the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Grant Program

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

D.1 RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Robert Noël asked what a "HIPPIY Coordinator" was. This is a State funded child development program – Home Instructional Program for Preschool Youngsters.

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

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

E. COMING EVENTS

October 17, 2001 – Bond Oversight Committee meeting

F. BOARD COMMENTS

None

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Retention Policy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, October 10, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Claire VanBlaricum, President, Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on _____.