

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
REGULAR MEETING
January 23, 2002**

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. Fred Rifkin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Michael Gonzalez, La Cumbre Middle School principal, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Staff Present: Deborah Flores, Ph.D., Superintendent
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.*
- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54957)** *Personnel matters, to include: Employee Contract for Superintendent.*
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code 54956.9[a])** *Sonya Mitchum, et al. vs. Santa Barbara School District, Case No. 2901-02-00006-01-03*
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code 54956.9[a])** *Cindy Ordway vs. Santa Barbara High School District, et. al., Case No. 2902-98-00009-01-02*
- **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)** *Expulsion Case No's. 01/2002-17, 01/02-21, and 01/2002-22 (Secondary District). The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parent or student request an Open Session*

Fred Rifkin announced 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 Dr. Robert Noël, Mary Ann Singh, Jim & Linda Philip, RADD Thrift Store, The Ralph's/Food 4 Less Foundation, Giati Designs, Inc.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Deborah Flores introduced Mike Vail, Cleveland School principal. Mr. Vail explained the school's Accelerated Reading Program and Heather Young, teacher, and students gave a presentation on how the program worked.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Loch addressed the Board regarding tennis.

B.1 FOCUS GOALS

Fred Rifkin reported that the Board had met during a special meeting on January 16 to discuss/propose goals to be accomplished for 2002. The five goals agreed upon at that meeting are on the agenda for approval. Claire VanBlaricum requested an amendment to Goal #4. Ruth Green asked for clarification on the timeline for the proposed Focus Goals and percentage targets. It was determined that the Goals would be reviewed in June 2003. Dr. Flores stated that staff will recommend percentage targets at one of the March meetings.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the focus goals for 2002, as amended.
Moved: Ruth Green **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

B.2 FIELD TRIP – DOS PUEBLOS DEBATE TEAM/CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the field trip to Cambridge, Massachusetts for the Dos Pueblos High School debate team.
Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

B.3 OUT-OF-STATE-TRAVEL AND EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF \$500

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve travel expenses in excess of \$500 for Jeff Peterson, Goleta Valley Junior High School teacher; Judy Hartman, La Cumbre Middle School teacher; Tiffany Quackenbush, La Colina Junior High School teacher, Liz Bush and Kelly Choi, Dos Pueblos High School teachers.
Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

B.6 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-17 (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: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-21 (High School District) – That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation to expel for one school year but that enforcement of the expulsion be suspended and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan, as amended. The student may attend La Cuesta at the San Marcos or Dos Pueblos site and the six months of anger management be changed to one year of anger management.

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

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-22 (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: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

C.1 PRELIMINARY 2002-03 BUDGET PRESENTATION AND ELEMENTARY BUDGET CUTS

Lori Parrish, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed the following: budget calendar, Governor’s proposed mid-year cuts (energy block grant, K-12 Equalization Grant, and Mega Item Block Grant), the revised budget figures, and 2002/03 assumptions.

Deborah Flores reviewed the reasons for having an elementary deficit – declining enrollment, difference in revenue limits, special education encroachment, and the State Budget crises. Dr. Flores also reviewed recommended budget cuts.

A five-minute break was taken at 8:35 p.m.

Members of the public who addressed the Board in support of the music program were: William Watson (Santa Barbara Youth Symphony chair), Martha Salas, Alice Sanov, Nancy Renshaw

Members of the public who addressed the Board in support of the librarians were: Margie Lang (Cleveland tutor), Susan Billing (elementary librarian), Kent Madson, Linelle Glass, Sissy Taian,

Sarah Griffin urged the Board to not eliminate the Family Services Contract,

Jackie Lapkin stated that Adams School cannot accommodate sixth grade students at that school.

Bill Batty, Family Service Agency of Santa Barbara executive director, urged the Board to continue to support this program.

Doris Gutierrez (Facilities administrative secretary) and Ken Rivas (CSEA president) opposed the proposed reduction/elimination of the Facilities Department and the proposed contracting out of services.

Paul Maurer, Santa Barbara Community Academy parent, opposed the proposed cuts to that school.

Dr. Noël read a letter from Gisele Ben Dor in support of the music program.

Board comments followed. This item will be on the next agenda for action.

C.2 6TH GRADE AT LA CUMBRE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Deborah Flores introduced the item by acknowledging the incredible job that the La Cumbre Middle School staff has done and expressed her belief in the middle school concept. She stated that in 1990, a committee was formed to study the middle school concept. At that time the decision to form a 6-8 middle school was based on housing, as the elementary schools were over crowded. However, it has cost roughly \$400,000+ every year to house elementary students at the middle school. In light of the budget crisis, the superintendent is recommending that the sixth grade be moved back to the Elementary District. She

reviewed the reasons for this recommendation. There would be a \$564,105 savings to the Elementary District in 2002/03 and \$632,163 in 2003/04. The 6th graders currently at La Cumbre Middle School would be housed at their respective elementary schools due to declining enrollment, the number of elementary teacher lay-offs would be reduced, space at La Cumbre Middle School would free up for other purposes.

Members of the public who addressed the Board and were opposed to returning the 6th graders at La Cumbre Middle School to the Elementary School District were: Judy Fuentes, Brianna Guttry, Anne Chesnut, Rand Clark, Elise Simmons, and Deborah Kramer.

Sarah Griffin spoke in support of the recommendation.

Board comments followed. This item will be on the next agenda for action.

C.3 LONG RANGE FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Deborah Flores stated that the Board has discussed creating a master plan for the District at a number of meetings and that a Request for Proposals Process (RFP) was completed. The Golden State Planning Group was selected from that RFP process. Vern Weber they are in month four of a twelve-month process. He gave an update on the first phase of the process, data collection. He stated that a draft of the report would be available in two months.

Board comments/questions focused on the process for receiving public input and timeline for future updates.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda:

- D.1 Personnel Action Items
- D.2 Purchase Orders
- D.3 Warrants
- D.4 Declaration of Miscellaneous Equipment as Surplus to the Needs of the Districts
- D.5 Consultant Services ADA Transition Plans, Secondary District
- D.6 Award of Contract – Site Preparation New Classroom/Restroom Building, Open Alternative School
- D.7 Proposal for Architectural Services Harding School Kitchen Renovations
- D.8 La Colina Junior High School Roofing Change Order No. 4
- D.9 Acceptance of Completed Contracts
- D.10 Adoption of Resolution No. 01/02-16 Expenditure Transfers
- D.11 Approval to Participate in the Cal-Card Purchasing Card Program
- D.12 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2001-2002 School Year
- D.13 Approval of Outdoor School Agreement with the Los Padres Council, Boy Scouts of America
- D.14 Renewal of Lease Agreement Former Scout House – Harding School
- D.15 Revisions to the 2001/02 Budgets

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Ruth Green **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

E. COMING EVENTS

Deborah Flores reported that at the request of Dr. Noël, Sonja Martin, Director of the Office of Assessment and Evaluation for the Norwalk La-Mirada Unified School District, has been invited to talk to principals on January 28 regarding “Achievement Profiling.” She invited Board Members to attend this meeting.

F. BOARD COMMENTS

None

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:07 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, February 13, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Fred Rifkin, President, Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on March 13, 2002