

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
REGULAR MEETING
February 13, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER/CLOSED SESSION

The Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts' Board of Education met today in the auditorium of the Santa Barbara Junior High School, 721 East Cota Street, Santa Barbara, California. Fred Rifkin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Deborah Flores, Superintendent, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- **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*

At 6:40 p.m., President Rifkin announced that the Board would also discuss, at this time, the items listed under the Closed Session section at the end of the agenda.

Upon reconvening, 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 Timothy & Virginia Bliss, Dennis Baker, Richard Weger, David Kasai, Jammer Family Fund, and Sally Kingston.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Julie Tsa, Santa Barbara High School student, reported on current events at the three high schools.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hazel Anderson, representing Santa Barbara High School administration, teachers, staff, and students, read a letter applauding the Superintendent for her courage and leadership in changing her decision to bring J. R. Richards, SBHS principal, to the District Office.

Kate Smith announced that she would be a candidate for the next School Board election and that she would help Santa Barbara High School and La Cumbre Middle School to become a charter school.

B.1 6th GRADE AT LA CUMBRE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Deborah Flores reviewed four major reasons why the District has a deficit in the Elementary District – declining enrollment, difference in revenue limits, special education encroachment, and the State budget crisis. In addition, she reviewed the reason why the middle school was established. She stated that since the beginning, this has been an expensive middle school model. In conclusion, she stated that she is recommending that the sixth grade at La Cumbre be returned to the elementary schools.

Members of the audience who addressed the Board opposed to the recommendation were: Carolyn Callahan, Hattie Beresford, Anne Chestnut, Jerry Chiu, Elise Simmons, Alyssa Ball, Mike Nunn, Robert Murray, and Robert Hunter.

Sarah Griffin stated that the cuts were necessary and the Board needs to make them.

Pam Kinsley asked that a decision on this item be postponed. She cited the time when Dos Pueblos was recommended for closure and when the budget was tightened, the school remained open.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the recommendation to house all 6th grade students at elementary schools and not to house 6th grade students from Adams, Harding, McKinley, Monroe, and Washington at La Cumbre Middle School.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

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

B.2 ELEMENTARY DISTRICT BUDGET PRESENTATION AND ELEMENTARY BUDGET CUTS

Lori Parrish, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed: historical data on the District's change in ADA, 2002-03 budget assumptions/expenditures, and 2001/02 and 2002/03 projected budgets. Deborah Flores reviewed: reasons for the projected deficit of \$758,147 in the 2002-03 Elementary District budget and the reasons why the figure has increased since the last Board Meeting.

Dr. Flores reviewed changes to the proposed cut list (*Possible Budget Cuts and Cost Savings: FY 2002-03*) which was presented at the 1/23/02 Board Meeting. She presented a second list of items (*Possible Budget Cuts and Cost Savings: FY 2003*), which need further study and/or must be negotiated. She reported that she had asked the Santa Barbara County Education Office to do an independent review of our budget documents and related information. The County concluded that the District's numbers are accurate. Copies of their response was available at the Board Meeting.

Bill Batty, Family Service Agency, thanked staff for engaging in dialogue with the Agency's Board of Directors regarding possible ways to fund the program. He asked that the Board defer a decision on this item until the Agency could contact possible donors.

Sarah Griffin spoke regarding items 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

Members of the audience who addressed the Board in support of the music program were Michael Acton, Linelle Glass, William Watson, Martha Salas, Pamela Steele,

Members of the audience who addressed the Board in support of the library media teachers were: Linelle Glass, Greg Madson Leslie Gascoigne, Laura Watson.

Tony Fischer stated that he has asked for, but has not been able to get, financial statements for both Districts.

It was the consensus of the Board that action on items 3, 4, 5, and 6 be deferred until the next meeting.

Recommendation #9: Reduce District contribution to GATE (\$10,000)

Recommendation #10: Eliminate clerk position at Franklin (\$27,000).

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt recommendations #9 and #10.

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

Recommendation #2: Eliminate District Office position: Administrative Intern (\$17,000).

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt recommendation #2.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

Recommendation #8: Reduce level of home-to-school transportation (\$40,000).

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt recommendation #8.

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

Recommendation #7: Reduce 3 staff positions at the SB Community Academy: Principal, .5 FTE (\$50,804); Spanish teacher, .5 FTE (\$25,655); P.E. Teacher, .5 FTE (\$25,163).

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education adopt recommendation #7.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter

■ **AMENDMENT TO MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve retention of the Santa Barbara Community Academy principal at .75 FTE but reduce the Spanish teacher and the P.E. teacher to .5 FTE.

Moved: Ruth Green **Seconded:** Robert Noël **Vote:** Failed

Ayes: Ruth Green **Noes:** Nancy Harter, Fred Rifkin, Claire VanBlaricum **Abstain:** Robert Noël

President Rifkin called for the vote on the original motion.

Ayes: Nancy Harter, Robert Noël, Fred Rifkin, Claire VanBlaricum **Noes:** 0 **Abstain:** Ruth Green **Absent:** 0

A ten-minute break was taken at 10:15 p.m.

B.3 FIELD TRIP – SMHS DANCE TEAM/LAS VEGAS, NEVADA; SBHS BAND/RENO, NEVADA; AND SMHS DRUM LINE/LAS VEGAS NEVADA

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the field trips for SMHS Dance Team/Las Vegas, Nevada (February 22-24, 2002); SBHS Band/Reno, Nevada (April 18-21, 2002); and SMHS Drum Line/Las Vegas Nevada (March 8-10, 2002).

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

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve travel expenses in excess of \$500 for Sandra Robertson SBJHS teacher and Kathleen Vasta, GVJHS teacher;

Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

B.5 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-25 (High School District) –That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation to expel for the 2002 Spring semester but that enforcement of the expulsion be suspended and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan, as amended (student maintain satisfactory academic progress and citizenship at Goleta Valley JHS instead of Santa Barbara JHS).

Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

C.1 FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION RE: CLOSING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP WORKSHOP PRESENTED BY DR. GERALD ANDERSEN ON FERUARY 7, 2002

Deborah Flores reported that during a Special Board Meeting on February 7, 2002, the Board heard a presentation by Dr. Gerald E. Anderson entitled Closing the Achievement Gap for All Students. Due to the late hour, this item was continued to the next meeting.

C.2 RECOMMENDATION OF A MODIFIED CALENDAR FOR BOTH DISTRICTS

Deborah Flores stated that staff have discussed the calendar for a some time. In fact, requests for a modified calendar have been approved on a case by case basis. Staff is recommending approval of one calendar for all schools, K-12, except for the two year round schools. The recommendation is for a modified calendar, which includes three weeks off during winter break and two weeks off at spring break.

However, due to input received by parents and neighboring school districts, Dr. Flores recommended that action not be taken at this time.

Board discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Board that a task force be formed to discuss this issue during the 2002-03 school year and that a recommendation be brought back for action for the 2003-04 school year. Nancy Harter volunteered to serve on this task force.

Members of the public addressing the Board who were opposed to the modified calendar were: Mary Brown, Karen Fricklund.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Items D.2 and D.6 were pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

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

D.1 Personnel Action Items

D.3 Warrants

D.4 Declaration of Miscellaneous Equipment as Surplus to the Needs of the Districts

D.5 Roosevelt Gate and Fence Installation, Change Order No. 1

D.7 Architect Selection, I-98 Washington, Franklin and Cleveland School

D.8 Measure V Architect Selection Dos Pueblos and San Marcos Modernization

D.9 Early Childhood Healthy Start Grant Proposal to the SB County Children and Families Commission for Funding Cycle 2002-04

D.10 Completed Contract, Santa Barbara Community Academy Expansion

D.11 Contract with the Josephson Institute to Provide “Pursuing Victory with Honor” training for Athletic Coaches in the District’s Three High Schools

Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **Vote:** Passed Unanimously

D.2 PURCHASE ORDERS

Ruth Green asked for clarification on P.O. 26713, CECC contract. Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations, explained that this was an annual membership for Research and Evaluation.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period January 17, 2002 through February 6, 2002.

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

D.6 SANTA BARBARA BOWL FOUNDATION SERVICE AGREEMENT, SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL

In response to Ruth Green's question as to where the money goes from this agreement, Robert Gonzalez that it goes into the secondary general fund.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period January 17, 2002 through February 6, 2002.

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

E. COMING EVENTS

March 1, 2002 – Santa Barbara County School Boards Association Annual Dinner
April 12, 2002 – Santa Barbara Public Education Foundation Hope Awards Dinner

F. BOARD COMMENTS

None

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Deborah Flores stated that due to the fact that the charter schools discussion with Paul Minney has been rescheduled twice, she has asked Mr. Minney when he would be available to meet during the day. Mr. Minney is available on February 28 or March 1. She asked Board Members to review their calendars and get back to her as to what date they preferred.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, February 27, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Fred Rifkin, President, Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on April 10, 2002