

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS
REGULAR MEETING
February 27, 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 5:45 p.m., and adjourned to Closed Session. The public session was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Mary Gosselin, Santa Barbara Junior High School teacher, 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:

- **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Government Code 54957)** *Personnel matters to include: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.*
- **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*
- **STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Education Code 48918)** *Expulsion Case No's. 01/02-26 and 01/02-29 (Secondary District). The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parent or student request an Open Session*

Upon reconvening, Fred Rifkin announced that the following action had been taken in Closed Session:

■ **MOTION:** That the Board instruct the District's attorney on how to proceed in the Cindy Ordway vs. Santa Barbara High School District case.

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board instruct the Superintendent to send release notices to two management employees.

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board instruct the Superintendent to send release notices to eight probationary teachers in the High School District.

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board instruct the Superintendent to send release notices to thirty-two temporary teachers in the High School District

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board instruct the Superintendent to send release notices to fifteen temporary teachers in the Elementary School District.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

■ **MOTION:** To approve the Minutes of January 29, 2002 (Regular Meeting).

Moved: Nancy Harter **Seconded:** Claire VanBlaricum **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 Dorothy Chum, Dr. Janet Giler, Mary Beth Tynan, Cox Communications, Hispanic Business, Inc., Nat & Jean Hawthorne, County Lumber, William Hansen, Loesche's Automotive, and Stanley & Barbara Tysell.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Gerrie Fausett, Santa Barbara Junior High School principal, introduced science teachers Mary Gosselin, Julie Kluss, Yesenia Thomas and their students who gave a presentation on cells.

Deborah Flores, sadly, reported on the death of Shirley Vera-Graziano, Cleveland Elementary School teacher, who served the District for 43 years.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kate Smith, who will be a candidate for the Board of Education, addressed the Board regarding one issue of her platform – the organizational structure of the District.

George Ogle thanked the Board for suspending the expulsion recommendation regarding his son, which allowed him to attend the Lindamood-Bell Program.

Pamela Steele spoke regarding the gross inequity in fundraising capabilities among the elementary schools.

B.1 ELEMENTARY DISTRICT BUDGET PRESENTATION AND ELEMENTARY BUDGET CUTS

Lori Parrish reviewed the draft of the proposed budget for the 2002-2003 school year, which was followed by Board questions. Deborah Flores stated that the Board had taken action on items #1, 2, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the list entitled *Possible Budget Cuts and Cost Savings: FY 2002 –03*, at the February 13, 2002 Board Meeting. She asked that the Board take action on the remaining items. She stated that the reduction in the music program and librarians is still being recommended and that many of the schools would like to allocate some of their funds to help maintain the Family Services Agency elementary counseling program. Dr. Flores recommended that the Board reconsider the action taken on Item #7, reduction of the Santa Barbara Community Academy principal to .5 FTE. She stated that she had met with Academy parents and that they have legitimate concerns regarding this reduction.

Members of the audience who addressed the Board against the reduction in the music program were: Sue Schleifer, William Watson, Linda Hedgepeth, and Marty Clausen.

Bill Batty expressed appreciation to the Board and staff for being accessible to discuss funding of the Family Services Agency's counseling services. He stated that the Agency is willing to absorb 25 percent of the reduction costs.

Pamela Steele spoke in support of the Family Services Agency counseling program.

Susan Billig spoke in support of the librarians.

Members of the audience who addressed the Board requesting that the Board reconsider the action taken to reduce the Santa Barbara Community Academy principal to .5 FTE were: Kirsten Zecher, Judy Ricker, and JoEllen Maurer.

Ken Rivas, CSEA President, asked the Board to reconsider the action taken to eliminate a clerk position at Franklin School.

Tony Fischer stated that he still has not seen any figures for the High School District budget.

Board discussion followed.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education charge the Superintendent to come back with a cut list of 6.5% overall from all central services that do not go directly to students.

Moved: Robert Noël **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **Vote:** Failed

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

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the implementation budget cut recommendation #2.

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

Recommendation #3: Financially restructure four District Office positions: Coordinator, Special Projects and Communication (\$14,375); Director, Elementary Curriculum (\$12,250); Secretary, Elementary Curriculum (\$5,300); Secretary, Research and Technology (\$4,900)

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve staff's recommendation to financially restructure the four District Office positions listed in budget cut recommendation #3.

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

■ **AMENDMENT TO MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve elimination of the position of Coordinator of Special Projects and Communication in its entirety so far as it affects the elementary budget.

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

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

President Rifkin called for the vote on the original motion:

Vote: Passed Unanimously

Recommendation #4: Reduce the instrumental music program by .5 FTE and reduce the repair/purchase of new instruments (\$40,000).

■ **MOTION:** That the instrumental music program be left intact, 100%.

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

■ **SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** That the Board of Education eliminate only \$4,000 for repair/purchase of instruments.

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

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

Recommendation #5: Eliminate Family Service Agency contract [elementary counseling] (\$102,657).

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the reduction of the Family Service Agency's contract by \$25,400.

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

President Fred Rifkin passed the gavel to Vice President Nancy Harter in order to second the following motion:

Recommendation #6: Reduce library staffing by 1.1 FTE (\$65,000).

■ **MOTION:** That the library budget be left intact, 100%.

Moved: Robert Noël **Seconded:** Fred Rifkin **Vote:** Failed

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

The gavel was returned to President Rifkin.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the staff recommendation to reduce library staffing by 1.1 FTE.

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

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

Recommendation #7: That the Board restore the principal position at the Santa Barbara Community Academy to full time for the 2002-03 school year.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education restore the principal position for the Santa Barbara Community Academy from half time to full time for the 2002-03 school year.

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

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

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education restore the clerk position at Franklin to .5 FTE.

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

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

B.2 APPROVAL OF VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM FOR 2002-03

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education approve the District's participation in the Arts Work Visual and Performing Arts Education Grant Program for 2002-2003 upon grant approval by the State Department of Education.

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

A ten-minute break was taken at 9:58 p.m.

B.3 2002 CSBA DELEGATE ASSEMBLY ELECTION BALLOT

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education cast its vote for Joan Jamieson to fill the vacancy for the CSBA Delegate Assembly, Subregion 11-A.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum **Seconded:** Nancy Harter **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 Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education; Diana Rigby, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education; John Martony, Payroll Supervisor; David James, Resource Specialist at DPHS; Amy Alzina, Tamar Venzor, Erin Michealsen, Jeanne Harris, Jennifer Hardin, Dixie Moore, Roberta Ortega, Santa Barbara Community Academy teachers; Tim Quiroz, Santa Barbara Community Academy interim principal; and Peggy Lubchenko, La Colina JHS teacher.

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

B.5 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-26 (High School District) –That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel's recommendation to expel for one school year (current and subsequent semester) but that enforcement of the expulsion be suspended for the second semester and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan. The student may remain on home/hospital teaching for the balance of the current semester.

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

■ **MOTION:** Case Number 2001/02-29 (High School District) –That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel's recommendation to expel for the present semester, which ends June 2002, and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan.

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

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

Robert Noël requested that this item be brought back in a broader context. Deborah Flores stated that she has talked with Gerald Anderson and if the Board plans on hiring him, a decision needed to be made by March. This item will be back on the agenda for action.

C.2 BOARD FOCUS GOALS – PERFORMANCE LEVELS

Deborah Flores stated that when the Board Focus Goals were established, the Board requested that performance goals be established for the three Goals that targeted student achievement. Brian Sarvis, Director of Research and Evaluation, presented proposed performance levels.

D. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Items D.5 and D.8 were pulled for discussion.

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

- 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.6 Electrical Design Services, Adams Elementary School
- D.7 Employment of Teachers for the Second Semester of the 2001-2002 School Year on a Waiver and Education Code 44256(b) Provision
- D.9 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2001-2002 School Year

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

D.8 ADOPTION OF THE SCHOOL CALENDARS FOR THE 2002-2003 SCHOOL YEAR

Deborah Flores pulled this item from the agenda, as it has not been negotiated with the Santa Barbara Teachers Association.

Lynn Rodriguez, a Harding and Santa Barbara Junior High School parent, requested that parent input be included when discussing changes in the school calendar.

Board discussion followed. Ruth Green requested input from the parents. This item will come back on a future agenda.

D.5 AWARD OF CONTRACT, CAMPUS PAINTING PHASE ONE, CLEVELAND SCHOOL

Staff responded to Nancy Harter's request for clarification on the amount being awarded to Mediterranean Painters.

■ **MOTION:** That the Board of Education award a contract in the amount of \$24,850 to Mediterranean Painters for campus painting, phase one, Cleveland School.

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

E. COMING EVENTS

March 1, 2002 – Santa Barbara County School Board Association annual dinner meeting

April 12, 2002 -- Santa Barbara Public Education Foundation annual Hope Awards Dinner

F. BOARD COMMENTS

None

G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ruth Green requested a progress report on the Early Intervention Program before the end of the school year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:27 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Fred Rifkin, President, Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on May 8, 2002