

Board of Education  
Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts

Minutes  
May 8, 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. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and the Board adjourned to closed session. Fred Rifkin called the meeting to order in public session at 7:00 p.m. Julie Medina, Secretary to the Superintendent, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Members Absent:** Nancy Harter, Vice President

**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, Ed.D., 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 Employee Performance Evaluation
- Settlement Agreement: Potential Litigation (special education student)
- Student Discipline (**Education Code 48918**) *Expulsion Cases: Numbers 01/02-48 and 01/02-49 (Secondary District). The Board must consider matters of student discipline in Closed Session unless the parents or students request an Open Session.*

Announcement of Closed Session Action

Upon reconvening, Fred Rifkin announced the following closed session action:

- Motion: That the Board approve settlement of potential litigation in reference to a special education matter.  
Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

Approval of Minutes

Fred Rifkin and Ruth Green requested corrections to the February 27, 2002 minutes.

- Motion: To approve the Minutes of January 16, 2002 (Regular Meeting) and February 27, 2002 (Regular Meeting), as corrected.  
Moved: Ruth Green Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

Receipt of Gifts

■ **Motion:** To receive with appreciation the donations to the Santa Barbara Elementary School District and Santa Barbara High School District from Kelly Krizman and J. Charles Plumb.

Moved: Ruth Green    Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum    Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4    Noes: 0    Abstain: 0    Absent: Nancy Harter

Superintendent's Report

The following students were recognized for the extensive number of hours completed beyond the 60-hour community service requirement: **San Marcos High School students:** Zumerud Alieva, Faeron Meldrum-Taylor, and Heidi Smith. **Santa Barbara High School students:** Javier Acosta, Lauren Jensen, and Vanessa Sorgman

In total, these six students needed to fulfill 360 hours. Instead, they donated a total of 5,403 hours of their time to their community.

Student Board Member Report

None

Correspondence

None

Public Comments

None

B.1 Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team Contract

Deborah Flores stated that at the March 27, 2002 Board meeting, the Board approved the hiring of Fiscal Management and Financial Assistant Team (FCMAT) to expedite implementation of the recommendations from FCMAT's June 28, 2001 report to the Board. One of their recommendations is to hire an assistant superintendent of business. After working in the District for 20 days, FCMAT is recommending that a chief business officer be hired at this time in lieu of their services and that an assistant superintendent for business be hired.

Tony Fischer expressed concern about hiring an interim chief business officer, as the District would lose 20 days experience that has already been acquired by FCMAT.

Board discussion followed.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the contract with the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum    Seconded: Ruth Green    Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4    Noes: 0    Abstain: 0    Absent: Nancy Harter

B.2 Recommendation to Hire an Interim Chief Business Officer and Recommendation to Hire an Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Deborah Flores reviewed the rationale for hiring an assistant superintendent for business services and reviewed costs for hiring an interim chief business officer.

Board discussion followed.

Tony Fischer stated that the District's policy regarding fiscal accountability was discussed at a prior meeting and that it should come back to the Board to include the new position, if approved, and assignment of responsibilities.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire an interim chief business officer.

Moved: Robert Noël    Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum    Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4    Noes: 0    Abstain: 0    Absent: Nancy Harter

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the recommendation to hire an assistant superintendent for business.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.3 The Equity, Excellence and Quality Center Contract

Deborah Flores stated that this item has been discussed at prior meetings and that the following schools have expressed the desire to participate in this program: Franklin Elementary School, Goleta Valley Junior High School, La Cumbre Middle School, Santa Barbara Junior High School, and Dos Pueblos High School.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the contract with the Equity, Excellence and Quality Center.

Moved: Robert Noël Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.4 Adoption of Elementary Math Textbooks

Karen Cooksey, Director of Elementary Curriculum, reviewed the composition and tasks of the District's Elementary Math Committee.

Teachers Debbie Katsbury and Pam Kinsley reported on the strengths of the recommended textbooks for grades K-2 and 3-6, respectively.

Board discussion followed.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education adopt the Scott Foresman *California Mathematics*, K-2 and Harcourt School Publishers *Harcourt Math @ 2002*, grades 3-6 for implementation when funds become available.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.5 Request to Apply for a Renewal of the Waiver to Locate Community Day School on the Campus of La Colina Junior High School

Mike Couch, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education, stated that one of the provisions of Education Code 48661 is that a community day school be housed on its own campus. In order for the District's Community Day School to be housed on the La Colina Junior High School campus, the District needs to annually apply for a waiver of this code.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the request to renew the waiver to locate Community Day School on the campus of La Colina Junior High School.

Moved: Ruth Green Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.6 Santa Barbara High School District Resolution No. 01/02-34 Providing for the Issuance and Sale of 2002 Refunding General Obligation Bonds of the District to Refund the District's General Obligation Bonds 2000 Election, Series A, and Approving Related Documents and Actions

Lori Parrish introduced the item and stated that at the April 17 special focus meeting of the Board, Mr. Gene Yee, Managing Director, U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray, gave a presentation regarding items B.6 and B.7. Bill Kadi, the District's bond counsel, was present to answer Board questions.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 01/02-34.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.7 Santa Barbara Elementary School District Resolution No. 01/02-35 Providing for the Issuance and Sale of 2002 Refunding General Obligation Bonds of the District to Refund the District's General Obligation Bonds 1995 Election, Series A and General Obligation Bonds 1995 Election, Series B (Roosevelt) and Approving Related Documents and Actions

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education adopt Resolution 01/02-35.

Moved: Ruth Green Seconded: Robert Noël Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.8 Classified Employees Week, Resolution No. 01/02-36

Fred Rifkin stated that the week of May 19 through 25 has been designated as Classified School Employees Week. In order to recognize this week locally, Ken Rivas, President of the California School Employees Association, Chapter #37, requested that the Board adopt Resolution No. 01/02-36. Fred Rifkin read the resolution into the record.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 01/02-36.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.9 Facilities Master Planning Update

Fred Rifkin stated that on April 23, 2002, a letter was sent to Golden State Planning Group terminating the contract for the development of the Districts' Long Range Facility Plan based on performance issues. Deborah Flores reviewed three options for proceeding with the process.

Board discussion followed.

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education authorize the administration to go forward with a new Request for Proposal for the remainder of the facilities master planning project, based upon evaluation of the material received from the existing firm.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.10 DPHS/National Council of Economic Education/Goldman Sachs Foundation 2002 Economics Challenge in New York, New York

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve the Dos Pueblos High School field trip to compete in the Economic Education/Goldman Sachs Foundation 2002 Economics Challenge in New York.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.11 Out-of-State Travel and Expenses in Excess of \$500

■ **Motion:** That the Board of Education approve out-of-state travel and/or expenses in excess of \$500 for Dos Pueblos High School teachers Douglas Mitchell and Roland Lewin.

Moved: Ruth Green Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

B.12 Student Expulsions

■ **Motion: Case Number 2001/02-48** (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. The student may remain on home/hospital teaching for the balance of the current semester.

Moved: Ruth Green Seconded: Claire VanBlaricum Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

■ **Motion: Case Number 2001/02-49** (High School District) – That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel's recommendation to expel for one school year (e.g., current and subsequent semester) and uphold the recommended rehabilitation plan. The student may petition for readmission to the District for the semester beginning January 2003.

Moved: Claire VanBlaricum    Seconded: Ruth Green    Vote: Passed  
Ayes: 4    Noes: 0    Abstain: 0    Absent: Nancy Harter

C.1 Request to Address the Board by Kate Smith Regarding Two Matters: (a) Administrative Response to Parent Complaints and (b) the Ill-Advised Litigation Practices and Procedures of the Santa Barbara School District

This item was pulled from the agenda.

C.2 Presentation by Dr. Robert Noël, Board Member, regarding Understanding School Choice: An Exercise in Data Driven Empathy

In response to recent *Santa Barbara News-Press* articles on “white flight,” Robert Noël explained that there are many reasons why parents choose to send their children to schools other than their school of residence. He gave a presentation on “understanding school choice.”

C.3 Approval of Revision of Board Policy 6143.4 and Administrative Regulation 6143.4, Promotion/Intervention/Retention

Deborah Flores pulled this item from the agenda. She explained that the District’s legal counsel had submitted information regarding this item and staff is in the process of reviewing this information.

C.4 Adoption of High School District Mathematics Textbooks, First Reading

Mike Couch reported on the process followed by the High School District Mathematics Textbooks selection committee.

Teachers Jerry Chiu and Jim Holmes, presented the recommended textbooks for the junior high schools and high schools, respectively.

Board discussion followed.

C.5 Application for the International Baccalaureate Program by Dos Pueblos High School  
David Cash, Dos Pueblos High School principal, reported that staff at the school began exploring the concept of implementing a International Baccalaureate diploma program over two years ago; a team attended an application phase training workshop; and course outlines were developed.

Sarah Griffin asked about start up and ongoing costs, where the funds were coming from, and if the District could afford the program over the long haul.

Board discussion followed.

C.6 Elementary District Budget Presentation and Update

Lori Parrish, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed updates to the Elementary District budget’s financial assumptions for 2002-2003 and unrestricted and restricted revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance for 2001-2002 through 2002-2005.

D. Approval of Consent Agenda

Henry Golas addressed the Board regarding item D.8, Additional Fundraising Plans for 2001-2002 School Year. He stated that a number of Roosevelt parents and business leaders in the community want to contribute to the Gifted and Talented Education program at Roosevelt Elementary School, as well as the school’s high achiever program. Funds would be received/distributed through the District’s Fiscal Services Department.

Sarah Griffin voiced concern about a fundraising program using the District’s fiscal services staff for account management and the use of “scrip.”

Ruth Green spoke regarding item D.1, Personnel Action Items. She stated that the format of the attachment had previously been discussed regarding the need to include more financial information on the recommended actions and asked if the new format was one recommended by FCMAT. Board discussion followed.

■ **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 Resolution No. 01/02-33 Restating Alternative Retirement Program 401(a)
- D.6 San Marcos Running Track Renovations, Change Order No. 4
- D.7 Acceptance of Completed Contract, San Marcos High School Running Track Renovations
- D.8 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2001-2002 School Year

Moved: Robert Noël Seconded: Ruth Green Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: Nancy Harter

E. Coming Events

May 15, 2002 – Regular Board meeting with a special focus on high school issues and an update on the state budget.

F. Board Comments

Claire VanBlaricum reported on the conference she attended in Sacramento.

G. Future Agenda Items

Ruth Green requested an update on the move of the District administration center. Fred Rifkin requested a discussion item on space at La Cumbre Middle School.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, May 22, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Fred Rifkin, President, Board of Education

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