

Board of Education
Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts

Minutes
January 22, 2003

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 6:00 p.m., and the Board adjourned to closed session. The President called the meeting to order in public session at 7:03 p.m. Linelle Glass, Santa Barbara Junior High School librarian, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Staff Present: Deborah Flores, Ph.D., Superintendent
Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education
Diana Rigby, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Education
Priscilla Diamond, Assistant Superintendent, Business 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:

- Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code 54956.9[a]) *Goleta Union Elementary School District v. Andrew Ordway, et al., Case No. CV99-7745-DDP*
- Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (**Government Code 54956.9[a]**) *Sonya Mitchum, et al., v. Santa Barbara Elementary School District, et al, SCSB Case No. 01066421*
- Public Employment (**Government Code 54957**) *Personnel matters to include Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.*
- Student Discipline (**Education Code 48918**) *Expulsion Cases: Numbers 01/02-27 and 02/03-13, (High School 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

President Harter announced that the Board gave direction to the superintendent and the District's attorney regarding the Ordway case.

Approval of Minutes

■ Motion: To approve the Minutes of November 26, 2002.
Moved: Robert Noël Seconded: Lynn Rodriguez 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 Southern California Gas Company, Denise Hinkle and Don Taylor, Roy E. Crummer Foundation, Exxon Mobil corporation, Mr. Joel Garberino, and Petra Lowen.
Moved: Fred Rifkin Seconded: Lynn Rodriguez Vote: Passed Unanimously

Superintendent's Report

Mike Couch, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, introduced and recognized Cheryl Banigan, special education teacher at Goleta Valley Junior High School. Ms. Banigan received the 2002 Exemplary Special Educator Award from the California State Federation Council for Exceptional Children.

Student Board Member Report

Kelly O'Bar, Dos Pueblos High School student, reported on current activities at the three high schools.

Correspondence

None

Public Comments

Ken Loch addressed the Board regarding Tennissance

Sarah Griffin addressed the Board regarding possible cost saving measures e.g., two-sided copying versus single side and emailing Board agendas to interested parties rather than mailing them.

Janet Rowse, on behalf of involved parents at Washington Elementary School, voiced opposition to a recommendation by Lanny Ebenstein to close Washington and transfer students to McKinley and Monroe Elementary Schools.

Linelle Glass urged the Board to not fund any new programs in light of the budget situation. She also reported on a *San Francisco Chronical* article regarding Santa Clara County education and business leaders polling the public to determine if voters would support a property tax increase dedicated to local schools.

B.1 Home-to-School Transportation (Elementary)

Deborah Flores stated that during last year's budget cutting process, a board member requested that elementary home-to-school transportation be studied and considered for reduction or elimination in future years; a transportation study was approved by the Board and conducted by Howard Wallach of Transportation Sector Consultants; the results of the study were presented to the Board at the December 11, 2002 Board meeting and six possible options for reducing costs were reviewed. At the December meeting, the Board asked staff to come back to the Board with some recommendations.

Dr. Flores reviewed staff's recommendations. She reported that representatives from Student Transportation of America (STA) have been working with staff and have forwarded a proposal for a 1-mile transportation zone radius. She introduced Paula Sauvadon of STA, who reviewed this proposal.

Public Comments:

Laura Wilson urged the Board to consider this item separately and weigh it against other cuts. She also spoke in support of neighborhood schools, and hoped that a downtown school with boundaries would soon be developed.

Alice Post recommended a concept of voluntary busing with regard to Washington and Monroe schools. She also urged the Board to continue buses to Adams Elementary School for safety reasons.

Eva Inbar, Santa Barbara Area PTA safety chairperson, also supported neighborhood schools. She also extended the PTA's help to those families that will lose bus transportation to assist them with a walking bus system.

Parents addressing the Board opposed to the elimination of bus service were: Arthur Quiroz (Adams Elementary), Maria Torres (Roosevelt Elementary School), Ignacia Salazar (McKinley Elementary), Martha Santamaria (Monroe Elementary), Macrina Santamaria (Monroe Elementary), Linda Carachue.

Board comments followed.

B.2 Administrative Regulation 6162.5, Student Assessment

Dr. Brian Sarvis stated that the recommended changes were reviewed at the last Board meeting. The major changes are (1) a contingency plan in the event the state postpones the High School Exit Exam so that students who have not already passed one of the exit exam tests would be required to pass District competency tests, (2) to move the waiver process from the state to the local level.

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the revisions to Administrative Regulation 6162.5, Student Assessment.

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

B.3 John Hancock Financial Services, Inc. Stock Shares Owned by Districts

Priscilla Diamond reported that in early January, the District received a dividend check from John Hancock. Upon investigation, it was discovered that, two years ago, the District insured its certificated and management staff with life insurance through John Hancock, a mutual insurance company. During that period, John Hancock demutualized and converted to a stock company. As a result, they distributed shares to their mutual life insurance policy holders. The District owns 11,955 shares valued at \$355,900. A school district is not allowed to own stock, therefore staff is recommending that these shares be sold.

Board discussion followed. Robert Noël suggested that the proceeds go towards an endowment of a District program(s).

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the sale of shares.

Moved: Fred Rifkin 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 out-of-state travel and expenses in excess of \$500 for Kathy Abney, La Cuesta Continuation High School principal.

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

B.5 Student Expulsions

■ Motion: Case Number 2001/02-27 (High School District) –That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s recommendation and the District’s attorney 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 January 27, 2003.

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

■ Motion: Case Number 2002/03-13 (High School District) –That the Board uphold the Administrative Hearing Panel’s and the District’s attorney 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 2003.

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

C.1 Report on the 2003-2004 State Education Budget

Priscilla Diamond, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, reviewed the Governor’s mid-year reductions for 2002-2003, Santa Barbara High School District projected state revenue reductions for fiscal year 2002-2003, Santa Barbara Elementary School District, and additional projected state revenue reductions for fiscal year 2003-2004.

C.2 Measure V Progress Report

Due to the late hour, this item was removed from the agenda.

D.1 Personnel Action Items

Staff responded to Ruth Green’s, Robert Noël’s, and Fred Rifkin’s request for clarification regarding consulting services charged to La Colina co-curricular funds (\$2,500), for the school accountability report cards (\$9,000), and rainy day supervision, respectively.

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the recommended personnel actions as listed on the attachment to the agenda.

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

D.2 Purchase Orders

Tony Fischer questioned the amount of P.O. No. 31320 (\$475,000,000) and clarification on P.O. No. 31319(1). Robert Gonzalez stated that the amount is \$475,000 for WLC Architects, not KBZ Architects.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period December 18, 2002 through January 14, 2002.

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

D.3 Warrants

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the warrant listings, dated December 20, 2002 through January 17, 2003.

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

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

■ Motion: That the Board of Education declare the listed equipment as surplus to the needs of the District(s) and authorize the administration to take appropriate disposal action.

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

D.5 Parking Lot Lighting, Dos Pueblos High School

Sarah Griffin asked if the newly paved parking lot will need to be disturbed to put in the lighting. Robert Gonzalez stated that the parking lot did not have to be disturbed as all the conduits were installed in advance.

Motion: That the Board award a contract in the amount of \$77,823 to JPL Electric for the parking lot lighting installation at Dos Pueblos High School. Funding for the project will come from Measure V funds.

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

D.6 Stadium Light, Dos Pueblos High School

■ Motion: That the Board of Education award a contract in the amount of \$588,421 to Blum & Sons Electric for the stadium lighting installation at Dos pueblos High School. Funding for the project will come from Measure V funds.

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

D.7 Stadium Bleachers, Dos Pueblos High School

■ Motion: That the Board of Education award a contract in the amount of \$637,000 to Frank Schipper Construction for the stadium bleacher installation at Dos Pueblos High School. Funding for the project will come from Measure V funds.

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

D.8 Award of Bid for Asphalt Repairs, Washington School

This item was out to bid as the agenda was being prepared. Robert Gonzalez, Director of Facilities and Operations, distributed bid tabulation sheets to Board members.

■ Motion: That the Board of Education award a contract to Granite Construction in the amount of \$26,884 for the temporary parking lot repairs at Washington School.

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

D.9 Additional Architectural Services Dos Pueblos High School

Robert Gonzalez responded to Tony Fischer's questions regarding handicapped access and DSA approval.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the contract with tBP Architects to provide additional architectural services to Dos Pueblos High School in the amount of \$37,500, to be funded from Measure V.

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

D.10 Consultant Agreements for Retirees Charleen Kirkman and Nila Baradan
Priscilla Diamond responded to Ruth Green's concern regarding the use of these consultants, as opposed to using consultants from FCMAT or School Services. Board discussion followed.

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the hourly contract with Nila Baradan.

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

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the hourly contract with Charleen Kirkman at 75 hours.

Moved: Fred Rifkin Seconded: Lynn Rodriguez Vote: Passed

Ayes: 4 Noes: Ruth Green Not Voting: 0 Absent: 0

D.11 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2002-2003 School Year

Sarah Griffin asked if the Jazz Choir wine tasting fundraiser was taking place off campus. The Board directed Mike Couch, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, to look into the matter.

■ Motion: That the Board of Education approve the additional fundraising plans for 2002-2003 for Dos Pueblos High School, excluding the wine tasting fundraiser for the Jazz Choir.

Moved: Fred Rifkin Seconded: Lynn Rodriguez Vote: Passed Unanimously

E. Coming Events

Lynn Rodriguez reported that a traffic safety walk-through at McKinley Elementary School will occur on January 29 at 8:00 a.m.

F. Board Comments

None

G. Future Agenda Items

Ruth Green requested a presentation, after budget discussions, on special education rules and laws.

Lynn Rodriguez requested that the discussion on the elementary district calendar be deferred until summer.

Nancy Harter requested a discussion item regarding individual Board member's requests for information.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Nancy Harter, President, Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on February 25, 2003