

**SANTA BARBARA ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 24, 2004**

**A.1 Call to Order**

The Santa Elementary and High School Districts' Board of Education regular meeting was held in the Administration Center Board Room, 720 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California, and called to order by Board President, Nancy Harter.

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

Staff Present: Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education  
David Hetyonk, Director of Facilities and Operations  
Brian Sarvis, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Elementary/Research and Technology  
Mary Stark, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Craig Price, Legal Counsel

**A.2 Public Comments (relating to closed session items only)**

None

**A.3 Closed Session – 5:35 P.M.**

*The Board adjourned to discuss the following matters in closed session:*

- Student Discipline (Education Code 48918) Expulsion Case: Numbers 03/04-26, 03/04-28 and 03/04-29 (Santa Barbara High School District).
- Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code sections 54957.6 and 3549.1)

Agency Designated Representative: Superintendent Deborah Flores

Employee Organizations: Santa Barbara Teachers Association

**Return to Regular Session – 7:00 P.M.**

**A.4 Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member, Ruth Green.

**A.5 Announcement of Closed Session Action**

Nancy Harter announced that there was nothing to report from closed session.

**A.6 Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2004 and February 10, 2004**

February 3, 2004

Motion by Ruth Green with corrections. Mrs. Harter did not lead the flag salute as she was not at the meeting.

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 5-0

February 10, 2004

Motion by Ruth Green with corrections. Mrs. Rodriguez was not present at expulsion case #03/04-19 and should be marked not present.

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 4-0

**A.7 Receipt of Gifts**

Motion: That the Board of Education accept with appreciation the donations listed in the agenda.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 5-0

**A.8 Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Flores and the board members honored Ruth Green for her service on the board.
- Dr. Flores recognized Fred Rifkin for his efforts to raise funds to maintain Cleveland's Latchkey program. Dr. Flores also recognized the other donors.
- Michael Couch honored Daniel Wilson and Elana Santana for becoming National Hispanic Scholars.

**A.9 Student Board Member Report**

Natalia Fischel reported on ASB activities at Santa Barbara High, San Marcos High and Dos Pueblos High Schools.

**A.10 Correspondence**

None

**A.11 Superintendent's Bulletin**

*On the second and fourth Friday of each month, the superintendent provides the board with a report called the Superintendent's Bulletin. This is an informational report about school district matters. A copy of the report is available for the public to read in the reception area of the district office. Anyone who would like a copy of the report should contact the superintendent's office. A list of the topics included in the last two week's Superintendent's Bulletin is attached at the end of the agenda.*

**A.12 Board Focus Goals**

A copy of the Board Focus Goals is attached to the end of the agenda.

**A.13 Public Comments**

Eric Norton addressed the board about independent study physical education.

Richard Solomon addressed the board about the vacancy on the board.

**B. Action Agenda – 7:20 P.M.**

**B.1 Appointment of Interim Principal for Roosevelt Elementary School**

Dr. Flores presented the recommendation to appoint Rachel Gonzales-Harris as interim principal of Roosevelt Elementary School.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Rachel Gonzales-Harris as interim principal of Roosevelt Elementary School, effective March 1, 2004, at a cost of \$40,217.

Motion by Robert Noël

Second by Ruth Green

Vote: 5-0

**B.2 Review of New Secondary Courses (Second Reading and Approval)**

Michael Couch explained the new courses and how the textbooks would be funded.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the new secondary courses.

Motion by Lynn Rodriguez

Second by Ruth Green

Vote: 5-0

**B.3 Request to Approve the School Community Policing Partnership Grant**

Michael Couch and Penny Jenkins, Director of CADA, explained the grant. Fred Rifkin asked questions about the budget. He also acknowledged the cooperation between the school district and community groups.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the School Community Policing Partnership grant application in the amount of \$325,000.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Robert Noël

Vote: 5-0

**B.4 Student Field Trips**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve La Colina Junior High School's field trip to Washington, D.C. and Williamsburg, Virginia.

Motion by Robert Noël

Second by Fred Rifkin

Vote: 5-0

**B.5 Staff Travel: Out-of-State Travel and Expenses in Excess of \$500**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the above listed out-of-state travel and/or expenses in excess of \$500.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Ruth Green

Vote: 5-0

**B.6 Student Expulsions**

Motion: That the Board of Education concur with recommendations and findings of the hearing panel in the expulsion case number 03/04-26, with the following exception (Santa Barbara High School District).

Student is to attend either SMHS or SBHS La Cuesta Independent Study Program through June 2004. If the student has successfully completed the semester, then the student may be admitted to either SMHS or SBHS in September 2004. If not, student will stay in independent study through 2005.

Case #03/04-26:  
Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

Motion: That the Board of Education uphold the recommendation to expel in case 03/04-28.

Case #03/04-28:  
Motion by Robert Noël  
Second by Ruth Green  
Vote: 5-0

Motion: That the Board of Education uphold the recommendation to expel in case 03/04-29.

Case #03/04-29:  
Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

## **C. Conference Agenda – 8:05 P.M.**

### **C.1 Request by Members of the Santa Barbara High School Staff to Honor Former Principal, John L. (J.R.) Richards**

Dr. Flores reviewed provisions of Board Policy 7310, which relates to naming a building in someone's name. She recommended the board support Santa Barbara High School staff's request to name a building in honor of J.R. Richards.

Dr. Flores introduced members of the Santa Barbara High School community who asked for time to propose a way to honor J.R. Richards. Wayne Cole requested permanent memorials for J.R. Richards that would include a plaque in the hallway where J.R. Richards greeted people and that the gymnasium be named after J.R. Richards.

Motion: To approve the request by Santa Barbara High School staff to have a permanent memorial for J.R. Richards that would include a plaque in the hallway where J.R. Richards greeted people and that the gymnasium be named after J.R. Richards.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Ruth Green  
Vote: 5-0

### **C.2 Staff Recommendation Regarding Proposed Changes in the School Calendar**

Dr. Flores presented the staff's compromise calendar proposal and recommended that it be implemented in August 2005.

Questions were asked of Jolene Reed regarding the spring break. Dr. Flores will put the calendar on the March 9, 2004 agenda for action. Sarah Griffin asked about any conflicts with construction activities and the early starting date. Mrs. Griffin encouraged the board to adopt a single unified calendar.

**C.3 Staff Response to Paul Neel's Report Regarding Utilization of Proposition 47 Funds**

Dr. Flores presented staff's recommendations in response to Mr. Neel's report. The recommendations are to: 1) Hire an independent consultant to develop and manage a timeline process; 2) Review the composition of the Bond Oversight Committee and to fill all vacancies.

Anthony Fischer discussed the need for a schedule of timelines as soon as possible.

**C.4 Requests to Address the Board**

David Holmes, San Marcos; Mike Nunn, La Cumbre and La Colina; Mike Odello, Santa Barbara Junior High, and Jeff Peterson, Goleta Valley JH, shared how performing arts classes have been reduced at the junior high schools. The request was made to restore the junior high program to its previous level.

Dr. Flores and Mr. Couch informed the board of efforts already underway. Recommendations regarding restoring some of these classes will be made at a future board meeting.

- 1) Mr. Burd was unable to attend.
- 2) Anthony Fischer addressed the board regarding Proposition 47 funds and the need for timelines.

Ruth Green and Dr. Flores responded to Mr. Fischer's comments. Portions of Mr. Neel's report and a subsequent letter were read.

**C.5 Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services – Santa Barbara Elementary School District**

Dr. Flores presented the rationale for the need to make reductions in particular kinds of services in the elementary district due to declining enrollment and budget considerations.

**C.6 Public Announcement of a Vacancy on the Board of Education and Duties and Responsibilities of Board Members**

Dr. Flores acknowledged the eleven individuals who have expressed interest in the vacancy on the board of education. A proposal for an advertisement to run in the newspapers was shared. Craig Price answered questions about how a protest to the appointment process could be filed. Fred Rifkin asked how board members would receive letters of interest and what selection process will be used. Lynn Rodriguez explained the paper she prepared on board member responsibilities and desired qualifications.

- 1) Nancy Harter read a letter from Keith Davies recommending the increase of diversity on the board.
- 2) Grace Florez declared her interest in serving as a trustee.
- 3) Elizabeth Sorgman read a letter from Raul Baez that recommended Grace Florez be appointed to the board.
- 4) Elizabeth Sorgman also recommended the appointment of Grace Florez to the board and voiced support for Anthony Fischer's earlier presentation.
- 5) Sarah Griffin appreciated Lynn Rodriguez' list on the responsibilities of board members.

6) Bruce Rittenhouse spoke on behalf of Grace Florez.

**C.7 California School Boards Association Membership**

Nancy Harter and Lynn Rodriguez discussed renewing membership in the California School Boards Association.

Robert Noël spoke about how CSBA is not known as a force for change.

**C.8 Revision to Board Policy 1240, Community Relations – Volunteer Assistance (First Reading)**

Dr. Flores discussed the need to revise the Community Relations – Volunteer Assistance policy. It was last revised in 1976. Mary Stark explained that item D.7, regarding workmen's compensation, was related to volunteering. Questions were asked regarding fingerprinting and criminal checks as related to volunteers.

Sarah Griffin expressed her concern that the board doesn't have all the facts needed to make a policy change.

Greg Chittick shared his knowledge regarding parent volunteers.

**D. Consent Calendar – 10:50 P.M.**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the following items as presented:

Motion by Robert Noël to approve D.1-D/6 and D.8-D.11

Second by Ruth Green

Vote: 5-0

**D.1 Personnel Action Items**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the attached list of recommended personnel action items.

Vote: 5-0

**D.2 Purchase Orders**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period February 4, 2004 through February 17, 2004.

Vote: 5-0

**D.3 Warrants**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the attached warrant listings, dated February 12, 2004 through February 20, 2004.

Vote: 5-0

**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.

Vote: 5-0

**D.5 Architectural Services – Peabody Stadium Press Box Master Planning for Santa Barbara High School**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the proposal submitted by Kruger Bensen Ziemer Architects for master planning services for a new press box at Peabody Stadium at Santa Barbara High School, in the amount not to exceed \$8,000. Funding for this project will come from Santa Barbara High School Measure V bond funds.

Vote: 5-0

**D.6 Santa Barbara Elementary/High School Districts Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts IIPP per California Labor Code Section 6401.7 and California Code of Regulations Title 8, Sections 1509.

Vote: 5-0

**D.7 Board Resolution No. 03/04-23 to Extend Workers' Compensation Benefits to Unpaid Volunteers**

Item was pulled.

**D.8 Early Years "Adopt a Book" Parent Advisory Board Fundraiser**

Motion: That the Board of Education adopt Resolution 03/04-25, approving Early Years "Adopt a Book" fundraiser.

Vote: 5-0

**D.9 Approval of Request for Board Approval of Food Sale at Cleveland Elementary School**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the food sale at Cleveland Elementary School.

Vote: 5-0

**D.10 Replacement of District-wide Fax Machines**

Motion: That the Board of Education authorize the purchase of 14 facsimile machines with an annual savings of \$1, 524.72 to the districts' budget.

Vote: 5-0

**D.11 Additional Fundraising Plans for the 2003-2004 School Year**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the additional fundraising plans for 2003-2004 for Dos Pueblos High School and Santa Barbara High School.

Vote: 5-0

**E. Coming Events – 11:00 P.M.**

Dr. Flores announced that there will be a special board meeting on charter schools on March 2, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.

**F. Board Comments – 11:05 P.M.**

**G. Future Agenda Items – 11:15 P.M.**

Nancy Harter requested that a report about the City of Santa Barbara/Goleta Joint Task Force Committee be placed on a future agenda.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

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Nancy Harter, President  
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education on March 9, 2004