

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

**Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting  
April 13, 2004**

**A.1 Call to Order**

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

Members        Nancy Harter, President  
Present:        Robert Noël, Vice President  
                  Lynn Rodriguez, Member  
                  Fred Rifkin, Member

Staff            Deborah A. Flores, Ph.D., Superintendent  
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/Adjourn to Closed Session – 4:45 P.M.**

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

- **Student Discipline** (Education Code 48918) Expulsion Case: Numbers 03/04-31, 03/04-41 and 03/04-45 (Santa Barbara High School District).
- **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (Government Code sections 54957.6 and 3549.1)

Agency Designated Representative: Superintendent Deborah Flores

Employee Organization: Santa Barbara Administrators Association and Santa Barbara Teachers Association

- **Liability Claims:** (Government Code 54956.95)

Claimant: Sook Bang

Agency Claimed against: Santa Barbara Elementary/High School Districts

Return to Public Session – 6:02 P.M.

**A.4 Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was lead by Nancy Harter, Board President.

**B. Board Candidate Interviews – 6:03-7:25 P.M.**

### **B.1 Board Candidate Presentation and Interviews**

Individuals who wished to be considered for the vacant seat on the board were asked to submit a letter of interest and a resume by March 17, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. Seventeen individuals submitted letters before the deadline and three have since withdrawn.

The following four candidates were interviewed at the March 23, 2004 board meeting:

1. Manual "Mac" Martinez
2. Grace Florez
3. Diana Zapata-Kotowski
4. Linda Romero Graham

The following five candidates were interviewed at this board meeting:

1. Steve Jacobsen
2. Annette Cordero
3. Charles Quintero
4. Richard Ramos
5. Rosanne Crawford

Each candidate was given five minutes to make a presentation after which 10 minutes was set aside for questions from board members and the public. Questions asked by members of the public included:

- What kind of Latino Parental involvement would you encourage?
- What steps have you taken to educate yourself regarding the issues that face our two districts?
- Do you support the continued use of the Open Court program?
- In your opinion, what must be done to improve Latino student achievement, or close the achievement gap?

The remaining five candidates (Frank Banales, Michael Cheng, Etelvina Menchaca, Laura Malakoff, and Sarah Griffin), will be interviewed at a special board meeting on April 20, 2004, at 6:00 p.m.

### **Return to Regular Meeting – 7:25 P.M.**

- Item E.2 from the Conference Agenda was taken at this time so discussion could take place while candidates were still in attendance.
- Agenda item E.2 was completed at 7:52 P.M.

### **C.1 Announcement of Closed Session Action**

It was reported that the board voted unanimously to reject the Liability Claims

### **C.2 Approval of Minutes – March 23, 2004**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the March 23, 2004 special and regular meeting

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 4-0

**C.3 Receipt of Gifts**

Motion: That the Board of Education accept with appreciation the above listed donations to the schools and/or districts.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Robert Noel

Vote: 4-0

**C.4 Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Flores announced the following:

- Eric Burrow of San Marcos High School was selected as Santa Barbara County Teacher of the Year.
- Gerry Belch, ROP teacher at Dos Pueblos High School was selected as Goleta's Finest Educator of the Year.
- San Marcos High School Mock Trial won the State Championship
- Crystal Apple award winners will be recognized at a later board meeting

**C.5 Student Board Member Report**

None

**C.6 Correspondence**

None

**C.7 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.*

**C.8 Board Focus Goals**

**C.9 Public Comments**

None

**Action Agenda – 7:56 P.M.**

**D.1 Santa Barbara Elementary School District -- Second Interim Report**

Mary Stark presented the background for this item which was originally presented at the last board meeting. She highlighted the changes that account for the differences between the First Interim Report (December 2003) and the Second Interim Report.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the Second Interim Report for the Santa Barbara Elementary District.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Robert Noel

Vote: 4-0

**D.2 Public Hearing on Districts' Initial Collective Bargaining Proposal for the California School Employees Association**

Dr. Flores presented the background for this item. She explained two corrections in the document.

No public comments were received.

Motion: That the Board of Education adopt its initial proposal with the California School Employees Association.

Motion by Robert Noel

Second by Fred Rifkin

Vote: 4-0

**D.3 Appointment of a Director of Special Education**

Dr. Flores thanked Dr. Wally Olsen for all of his hard work and willingness to assist the district until a permanent director of special education was appointed by the board and able to start with the districts. Dr. Flores indicated Dr. Olsen had agreed to stay on for a period of time for transition. She indicated that there were a number of qualified applicants for the position this time and that an outstanding candidate had been selected.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the appointment of Jeffrey Gabrielson as director of special education.

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 4-0

**D.4 Approval of Health Information Technology Grant Application**

Nick Sebastian and Debbie Pentland presented the background for this item, with information on systems capabilities and costs.

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services application for the \$1.5 million Value of Health Information Technology Grant.

Motion by Robert Noel

Second by Lynn Rodriguez

Vote: 4-0

**D.5 Appointment of Board Member to the District English Learner Advisory Committee**

Michael Gonzalez presented the background for this item. A vacancy was created with the resignation of board member Ruth Green.

- Public Comment by Sara Griffin.

Motion: That the Board of Education appoint Lynn Rodriguez to the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC)

Motion by Fred Rifkin

Second by Robert Noel

Vote: 4-0

**D.6 Staff Travel: Out-of-State Travel and Expenses in Excess of \$500**

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

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 4-0

**D.7 Student Expulsions (Case number 03/04-31, 03/04-41, and 03/04-45: Santa Barbara High School District)**

Case number 03/04-31: Lynn Rodriguez moved to concur with the recommendations and findings of the administrative hearing panel with the following exceptions: That the student attend El Puente for the remainder of the 03/04 school year and summer. Upon concurrence with the principal and teachers of El Puente, the student may attend the High School of choice for the 04/05 school year.

Motion by Lynn Rodriguez  
Second by Robert Noel  
Vote: 3-0-1 with Mr. Rifkin abstaining.

Case number 03/04-41: Fred Rifkin moved to concur with the recommendations and findings of the administrative hearing panel with the following exceptions: That the student attend Community Day School starting on Monday until the end of the 03/04 school year. That the student attend El Puente during the summer. Upon concurrence with the principal and teachers of El Puente, the student may attend the High School of choice for the 04/05 school year.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Robert Noel  
Vote: 4-0

Case number 03/04-45: Fred Rifkin moved to concur with the recommendations and findings of the administrative hearing panel.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 4-0

**Conference Agenda – 8:28 P.M.**

- **Item E.3 was taken at this time**

**E.1 SELPA Joint Powers Agency**

Dr. Flores presented the background for this item. At a previous meeting the JPA agreement was extended by the board until June, 2004. Dr. Olsen presented district concerns and responses to these concerns furnished by the JPA. The board needs to take action soon and this item will be brought back at the April 27, 2004 meeting.

**E.2 Request to Schedule a Special Board Meeting to Appoint a New Member of the Board of Education**

- **This item was taken at 7:25**

Dr. Flores presented the background on this item, requested by Mrs. Rodriguez. Mrs. Rodriguez discussed her concerns about having to appoint a board member immediately following the candidate interviews. Following discussion and with input from candidates, the board did not change the process

**E.3 Report on Elective Requests by Junior High Students**

Mike Couch presented the background for this item. Discussions on electives, costs, school requests and the method of polling followed.

- Public comment by Jeff Peterson.
- Public comment by David Holmes.

Dr. Noel questioned Mr. Holmes about programs.

**E.4 Intent to Layoff Classified Staff Due to Lack of Funds in the Santa Barbara Elementary School District**

Dr. Flores presented the background for this item, including a deadline of April 29, 2004 for board action. These layoffs are necessary due to declining enrollment. This item is required to be on two agendas. It will be brought back to the April 27 board meeting for action.

**E.5 Reduction of Hours for Instructional Assistants**

Dr. Flores presented the background for this item, including a deadline of April 29, 2004 for board action. These reductions are necessary due to the lack of categorical funds. This item is required to be on two agendas. It will be brought back on April 27 for action.

**E.6 Elementary Enrollments and Boundaries: Cesar Chavez Charter School, Cleveland Elementary School, Franklin Elementary School, Santa Barbara Community Academy, and Washington Elementary School**

Dr. Sarvis presented the background for this item, including current attendance areas and a strategy to decrease enrollment at Franklin Elementary School and to increase enrollment at Cleveland Elementary School. Dr. Sarvis presented information on enrollment projections for the Santa Barbara Community Academy and priorities allowed by the Education Code for attendance.

- Public Comment by Sara Griffin.

**E.7 Report on Possible Adoption of Education Code Section 35110, Resolution Creating Single District with Common Administration**

Dr. Flores presented the background for this item, including a list of questions asked by various individuals. Mary Stark addressed the budget questions. Dave Hetynok and Craig Price addressed the property questions. Dr. Sarvis addressed the standardized testing and accountability questions. This item will be brought back for action at the board meeting on April 27, 2004.

**E.8 Adoption of Resolution 03/04-29, Supporting Repeal of the Penalties in Social Security That Harm Public Education**

Dr. Flores presented the background on the item.

Motion: To adopt Board Resolution 03/04-29, Supporting Repeal of the Penalties in Social Security That Harm Education.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 4-0

**Consent Calendar – 11:05 P.M.**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the following items, F.1 through F.9, as presented:

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Second by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 4-0

**F.1 Personnel Action Items**

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

**F.2 Purchase Orders**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the Purchase Order Report for the period March 17, 2004 through April 6, 2004.

**F.3 Warrants**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the attached warrant listings, dated March 24, 2004 through April 9, 2004.

**F.4 Modular Classroom Lease, Adams Elementary School**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the lease of four modular classrooms in the amount of \$39,388 to Modtech Inc. for temporary housing at Adams Elementary School and make the finding that notwithstanding Sections 20111 and 20112 of the Public Contract Code, the Board of Education of the Santa Barbara School Districts has determined it to be in the best interests of the districts to grant approval of the lease of four modular classrooms pursuant to a “piggyback” clause in the Val Verde Unified School District Bid No. 99-01-A for which the originating district has complied with all competitive bidding requirements.. Funding for this project will be from Adams Elementary School Measure I-98 bond funds.

**F.5 Proposal for Inspection Services, Adams Elementary School**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the proposal submitted by Knowland Construction Services to provide DSA inspection services for new electrical service and modernization at Adams Elementary School. The cost of the services, not to exceed \$85,000, will be funded from Adams Elementary Measure I-98 bond funds.

**F.6 Natural Gas Line Replacement at Santa Barbara High School**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve a contract in the amount of \$44,986 to Anderson Systems for natural gas line replacement at Santa Barbara High School. Funding for this project will come from Santa Barbara High School Measure V bond funds.

**F.7 Santa Barbara Junior High School Theater Renovation Change Order No. 16**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve Change Order No. 16 in the amount of \$4,979.34 for the Santa Barbara Junior High School theater renovation. This change order will be funded from Santa Barbara Junior High School Measure V bond funds.

**F.8 Fixed Asset Inventory Update Proposal**



Motion: That the Board of Education approve RCI Technologies’ proposal to update the inventory of the districts’ fixed assets valued at \$5,000 and above. The proposal amount is \$11,950.

- Public Comment by Sara Griffin.

**F.9 Transportation Sector Consultants Service Review**

Motion: That the Board of Education authorize the Year Three Extension be granted to Student Transportation of America.

**G. Coming Events – 11:09 P.M.**

A Public Education Foundation event will be in the near future. Mrs. Harter will provide the date at the next board meeting.

The Santa Barbara County School Board Association Dinner next Sunday night in Buellton. Jack O'Connell will be the featured speaker.

**H. Board Comments – 11:11 P.M.**

Dr. Noel offered comments about not wanting to use up an exemption for the high school district at the expense of the elementary school district. Mr. Price will research and provide additional information for the next Superintendent's bulletin.

Mrs. Rodriguez comment on fundraising efforts. Currently over \$11,000 has been sent in. Mrs. Rodriguez thanked all who have donated so far. Dr. Flores indicated that a list of all donors will be provided at the end of the campaign.

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

None

**J. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Attest:

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Nancy Harter, President  
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education  
on April 27, 2004