

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

**Minutes of Special Meeting  
APRIL 20, 2004**

**A.1 Call to Order**

The Santa Barbara Elementary and High School Districts' Board of Education regular meeting and special board 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 Present: Nancy Harter, President  
Robert Noel, Vice President  
Lynn Rodriguez, Member  
Fred Rifkin, Member  
Annette Cordero, Member  
(after her appointment to the Board and beginning with Item C.2)

Staff Present: Deborah A. Flores, Ph.D., Superintendent  
Michael Couch, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education  
Brian Sarvis, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Education/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 – 5:35 P.M.**

The board discussed the following matter in closed session:

- **Public Employee Appointment** (Government Code section 54957)  
Title: Roosevelt School Principal

No action was taken in closed session.

**A.4 Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Nancy Harter, board president.

**B. Board Candidate Interviews – 6:00-7:30 P.M.**

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

Previously, 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resume by March 17, 2004 at 5:00 p.m. Seventeen individuals submitted letters before the deadline and three have since withdrawn. Four of the candidates were interviewed at the March 23, 2004 board meeting, five were interviewed at the April 13, 2004 board meeting, the remaining candidates were interviewed at this board meeting. 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.

A total of 15 minutes (time certain) was allotted per candidate. The order of the presentations by the candidates was determined through a random selection process.

The remaining five candidates who went through the interview process at this board meeting, and in the order were: (1) Frank Banales, (2) Michael K. Cheng, (3) Etelvina Menchaca, (4) Laura Z. Malakoff, and (5) Sarah Griffin

Public Questions included:

- (1) Roman Lino: What plan do you have to work with teachers, parents and students?
- (2) Maruja Estay: What kind of strategy would you have to increase parental education?
- (3) Sarah Griffin: How have you familiarized yourself with the issues that will be facing the district over the next several months?
- (4) Nestor Hernandez: In your opinion, what must be done to improve Latino academic achievement and close the achievement gap?

**Break – 7:30 p.m.**

**Return to Regular Session – 8:00 p.m.**

**C. Action Agenda – 8:00 P.M.**

### **C.1 Appointment of Member to the Board of Education**

Members of the Board of Education announced their short list of candidates for the vacancy on the board:

Dr. Robert Noel's list

Michael K. Cheng  
Annette Cordero  
Grace Florez  
Sarah Griffin  
Laura Z. Malakoff  
Richard Ramos

Fred Rifkin's list

Richard Ramos  
Annette Cordero  
Frank Banales

Laura Z. Malakoff  
Sarah Griffin

Lynn Rodriguez' list

Richard Ramos  
Annette Cordero  
Diana Zapata-Kotowski

Nancy Harter's list

Annette Cordero  
Frank Banales  
Sarah Griffin  
Laura Z. Malakoff  
Richard Ramos

Motion: That the Board of Education appoint Annette Cordero to the vacant seat on the Board of Education.

Motion by Lynn Rodriguez  
Seconded by Fred Rifkin

Substitute Motion: That Richard Ramos' name be substituted for Annette Cordero's name as the person to be appointed to the vacant seat.

Motion by Robert Noel  
Seconded by Fred Rifkin  
Vote: 2-2 (defeated)

Amended Main Motion: That Annette Cordero be unanimously appointed to fill the vacant seat.

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

Ms. Cordero was sworn in by Dr. Deborah Flores, and took her seat on the Board of Education.

Public Comment: David Holmes reported on his attendance at a presentation by Peter Kuhn about the importance of participation in electives.

**C.2 Retirement Incentive Plan for Certificated Employees**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve offering a retirement incentive plan for certificated employees for the 2003-2004 school year.

Public Comment: Sarah Griffin asked how many teachers took advantage of last year's incentive, and noted that Fiscal Services recommends that incentive plans not be done each year, not including the superintendent.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Seconded by Robert Noel  
Vote: 5-0

**C.3 Reinstating the Three Days Deducted From the Salary of Management Employees for the 2003-2004 School Year**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve reinstating three days for management employees in the elementary and high school district for the 2003-2004 school year.

Public Comment: Ken Rivas recommended that the Board of Education wait until the Third Interim Report before voting on this item.

Motion by Robert Noel  
Seconded by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 4-0-1 (Ms. Cordero abstained.)

**C.4 Proposal for Comparative Market and Financial Analysis for District Owned Properties**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve, with suggested changes, the proposal from Robert Charles Lesser, Inc. to perform comparative market and financial analysis regarding the Tatum and Hidden Valley properties.

Public Comments:

Sarah Griffin encouraged the Board to approve the proposal and include an analysis of the difference between a leased land project and the outright sale of the property.

Tony Fischer asked which local developers worked with this agent previously and when, and raised a contract issue.

Action: It was agreed to bring this item back to the Board at the next meeting.

**C.5 Accounting Services to Implement Charter School Accounting Requirements**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the \$5,250 contract with Vavrinek, Trine, Day, & Co. accounting services division to engage the services of Caroline Larson to implement charter school financial reporting requirements pursuant to AB 1994.

Public Comments:

Sarah Griffin asked why the entries were reversed, and if one reporting method creates more work than the other.

Tony Fischer asked who is going to audit the auditor.

Motion by Robert Noel  
Seconded by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

## **C.6 Student Field Trip**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the above student field trip.

Motion by Fred Rifkin  
Seconded by Robert Noel  
Vote: 5-0

## **C.7 Staff Travel: Out-of-State Travel and/or 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  
Seconded by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

## **D. Conference Agenda – 9:20 P.M.**

### **D.1 Public Disclosure of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Districts and the Santa Barbara Teachers Association (SBTA)**

Dr. Flores announced the terms of the tentative agreement with the Santa Barbara Teachers Association for the 2003-04 school year. The Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement (AB 1200) cost forms were explained by Mary Stark. Dr. Noel commended Dr. Flores and Mary Stark for presenting this information. The item will be returned for action.

Public Comment: Ken Stevens, president of SBTA, thanked Dr. Flores for the positive tenor of the negotiations, discussed the need for a teacher raise next year, and endorsed passage of the single school district resolution.

### **D.2 San Marcos High School's Plan to Raise Funds to Build A Weight Room**

Michael Couch introduced Craig Morgan and Ed Donahue, former president of the San Marcos High School Athletic Boosters, who presented the San Marcos High School fundraising plan to build a weight training center on the campus. Mr. Donohue introduced Mr. Satzinger, the architect, and Mr. Mack, the president of the Athletic Boosters. There was discussion about the plan needing to be architecturally consistent with the campus master plan.

Motion: That the Board of Education support the fundraising project to build weight training center at San Marcos.

Motion: Fred Rifkin  
Seconded by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

### **D.3 Request to Change Athletic Directors to 80% Administrative Positions**

Michael Couch introduced David Cash, principal of Dos Pueblos High School, who outlined the reasons for changing the position of Athletic director to an 80% administrative position. Dr. Kristine Robertson, principal of Santa Barbara High School and Craig Morgan, principal of San Marcos High were also present to answer questions.

Board members expressed a desire to have the proposal costed when it is brought back.

### **D.4 Potential Refunding of 1995 General Obligation Bonds**

Mary Stark explained how the 1995 General Obligation Bonds could be refunded (refinanced). Mr. Zeronian of Prager, Sealy and Co., LLC, explained the refunding process in more detail and addressed board questions about the fees which would be charged, including by board counsel. The board requested a report on the proposed costs at the next meeting.

### **E. Consent Agenda – 10:30 P.M.**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve the following items as presented: E.1 and E.2.

Motion by Robert Noel  
Seconded by Lynn Rodriguez  
Vote: 5-0

#### **E.1 Upgrade Current Pitney Bowes Mail Machine Lease**

Motion: That the Board of Education approve restructuring the remaining 39 month lease for the Pitney Bowes Mail Machine Rental Agreement.

Speaker: Sarah Griffin asked questions about the agreement and if there was any way to get out of the agreement.

Vote: 5-0

#### **E.2 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

### **F. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 p.m.

Attest:

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Nancy Harter, President  
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education  
on May 11, 2004