

**SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICTS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Minutes of Special Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 2006

Call to Order- Meeting convened at 5:32 p.m.

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

Members Present:

Annette Cordero, President
Laura Malakoff, Vice President
Lynn Rodriguez, Member
Nancy Harter, Member

Members Absent:

Robert Noël, Member-absent only through the Consent Agenda portion of the board meeting

Staff Present:

Brian Sarvis, Ed.D. Superintendent
Mary Stark, Assistant Superintendent Business Services
Jan Zettel, Assistant Superintendent Secondary Education
Robin Sawaske, Assistant Superintendent Elementary Education

Regular session

A.1 Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Board President Cordero.

A.2 Pledge of Allegiance

A.3 Spanish Translation/Traducción en Español

Mr. Rene Garcia introduced himself and stated he was available for translation.

A.4 Headsets for Hearing Impaired

Board President Cordero announced that headsets for the hearing impaired were available.

A.5 Introductions, Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions

None

A.6 Student Board Member Report

None

A.7 Correspondence

None

A.8 Public Comments

None

Consent Agenda

- B.1 Approval of Staff Travel – Out-of-State Travel and/or Expenses in Excess of \$500 dated May 16, 2006
- B.2 Approval of Additional Fundraising for 2005-06 – San Marcos High School
- B.3 Approval of Student Field Trip – La Cumbre Junior High School

- B.4 Approval of Amendment of the Appendix of the District's Conflict of Interest Code Regarding Additional Job Categories/Committee Members Who Must Complete Conflict of Interest Statements Pursuant to Government Code Section 87306 and Adoption of Resolution 05/06-39

Motion to approve the consent agenda

Motion by Board Member Harter, seconded by Board Rodriguez

Vote: Ayes: 4 (Rodriguez, Malakoff, Harter, Cordero); Absent: 1 (Noël)

Action Agenda

C.1 Approval of Board Focus Goal No. 1 – Student Achievement Regarding Diversity in Advanced Courses and Academies

Dr. Sarvis presented the item. He began by reviewing the different language alternatives. Board members provided their input regarding the various alternatives. Board Member Harter suggested adding to alternative B, the following language: "...by all qualified students, to ensure equity the district will work to attract students of diverse backgrounds and use all available means to identify and remove obstacles for members of unrepresented groups". The board discussed Board Member Harter's suggestion and the use of different words.

Motion to accept Board Member Harter's language

Motion by Board Member Noël

Seconded by Board Member Harter

Board members continued to discuss word options. They went back and forth on the word "qualified".

Vote: Ayes: 2 (Harter and Noël); Noes: 3 (Rodriguez, Malakoff, Cordero)

Motion failed

Motion to accept a variation to alternative B, increasing participation across the demographic spectrum in advanced courses and academies, for example, GATE, AP, Honors, International Baccalaureate

Motion by Board Vice President Malakoff

Seconded by Board Member Rodriguez

Vote: Ayes: 4 (Rodriguez, Malakoff, Harter, Cordero); Noes: 1 (Noël)

C.2 Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 6152, "Learning through Community Service"

Dr. Sarvis presented the item. He reminded board members that this item had been reviewed at a previous meeting; and noted that the resolution number had been changed to match the agenda and was now correct.

Motion to approve the adoption of Board Policy 6152 "Learning through Community Service"

Motion by Board Member Harter

Seconded by Board Member Rodriguez

Vote: 5/0

C.3 Adoption of Resolution No. 05/06-45 to Tape Record Closed Session Proceedings

Board Member Harter requested clarification under item 5A. She noted she was concerned that it was not clear as to whether the tape could be removed from the superintendent's office or not. Dr. Sarvis inquired if it were necessary to add language to prohibit removal of the tape recording. The board discussed possible language and had a number of questions and suggestions. Dr. Sarvis took note and will check with Craig Price on the different questions raised by the board and will return with a revised draft to the next board meeting. No action was taken.

Conference Agenda

D.2 First Reading of Santa Barbara School Districts' Instruction for English Learners (EL) Master Plan and an Overview of the Professional Development Plan for English Learners

Asst. Superintendent Elementary Education Robin Sawaske presented the item. She explained that the Comité group was now rolled into the categorical program monitoring process and, therefore, when the high school district finishes its categorical review in June, it will include an ELD report as well. She then shared a detailed PowerPoint presentation regarding the EL Master Plan and answered questions from the board. Compliance and Categoricals Director Michael Gonzales reviewed the plan with the board. He noted that the first plan was put together approximately 4 years ago, as a result of the Comité process. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the plan was put together very quickly, and although it has been very successful, it was now time to review a number of documents. He reviewed the changes that have been made to the original plan. Ms. Sawaske continued with her presentation, answering various questions from the board.

D.1 First of Two Public Forums for Community Input on Future Calendar Development for the Elementary and Secondary Schools

Item was taken out of order to comply with the time listed on the agenda.

Personnel Director Dr. Kris Robertson introduced the item. She began by noting that she had received feedback from various schools regarding the development of a future calendar. Ms. Robertson reviewed the different calendars the district currently uses modified, year round, traditional, elementary and high school. She explained that she was hopeful the district could move to a single calendar. Board Member Harter stated she had emailed the secondary advisory group requesting feedback in regards to the calendar. She shared the comments she received. Board Member Rodriguez announced she did the same for the elementary advisory group and shared the comments she received as well.

Public Comment:

- Suzy Cawthon- consider a SMHS block calendar, does not like the 2 week spring break, testing is critical during that time and missed too much

D.3 Report on Anticipated Safe Schools Grant Expenditures for 2006-07

Jan Zettel presented the item. He reviewed the estimated 06-07 revenue for the School Safety Grant vs. the actual 06-07 available revenue, the current grant expenditures: junior high campus security, the Youth Service Specialists (YSS), and the truancy coordinators. Mr. Zettel explained that staff proposed priorities for the expenditure of the grant. He clarified the rationale behind the proposed priorities and answered questions from the board. The board discussed the job description connected to the truancy coordinators, YSS's and campus security. Board Member Harter requested a broader explanation of the funding be included in a future Board Brief, along with the original contract for the truancy coordinator at Santa Barbara High School, the job description and accountability figures. Board Member Noël questioned the use of funds and Bob Wolfe explained how the grant monies can be used and how the funding works. Mr. Zettel will include the requested information in a Board Brief.

Board adjourned to a 15 minute break

D.4 Board Discussion and Direction Regarding Potential Budget Additions/Reductions

Dr. Sarvis made an opening statement and explained that tonight's discussion was for the board to provide staff direction on how to proceed with either reductions or additions.

Ms. Stark presented the item. She stated she was sending her staff to the Governor's Budget presentation and would bring back more specificity as to what the governor's proposal would mean to the district. Ms. Stark provided the board with a recap of previous information shared with them and proceeded with a review of 06-07 elementary and high school budget assumptions answering questions as she went along. Her recap included categorical, lottery and site discretionary monies. She clarified how these monies are distributed and spent at the various sites. She noted that declining enrollment at the elementary sites continues and that the high school district experienced, for the first time, some decline as well. Board Member Harter stated it was important to put together a plan to increase attendance and recoup some of the lost funds. The board discussed the list of "items for discussion" that Ms. Stark presented regarding the 06-07 budget additions/reductions. Ms. Stark then inquired how the board wanted to proceed. Board President Cordero stated they would like to see further information on how it would look if they

were to request moving towards increasing the economic reserve and if they decided to set aside money for post employment for retirees. Ms. Stark will return on the 23rd with the requested information.

D.5 First Reading of New Board Policies on Board Bylaws 9000 Series

Dr. Sarvis began by noting that Mr. Price was not present to advise them if necessary, but that he would take note of the boards concerns and forward them to him.

Board President Cordero read through the board policies and bylaws being presented and inquired if there were suggestions or changes from the board members.

BB 9323.2, Actions by the Board- no suggestions were made

E 9323.2, Actions by the Board, Actions Requiring More Than a Majority Vote- no suggestions were made

BB 9324, Minutes and Recordings- no suggestions were made

BB 9400, Board Self-Evaluation- board members commented on the use of the word “self”; they suggested eliminating the word and eliminating the use of video tape as an evaluation tool as well.

D.6 Discussion of Voluntary Campaign Contribution Limits for Board of Education Candidates

Board Member Harter introduced the item noting that she wanted to discuss the topic of setting limits to campaign contributions in an effort to avoid spiraling effects and make it more attractive to community members who may be interested in running for school board. Board members provided their thoughts regarding the topic. Board President Cordero agreed that it was important to make it as affordable as possible to allow everyone interested in running for the board, and she suggested contacting similar districts and see what they are doing.

E. Coming Events

Dr. Sarvis announced the groundbreaking ceremony for the Dos Pueblos High School pool.

F. Board Comments

None

G. Future Agenda Items

None

H. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Attest:

Annette Cordero, President
Board of Education

Adopted by Board of Education
on August 22, 2006