

Santa Barbara School Districts

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting – Tuesday, June 5, 2007

720 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101 (805) 963-4338 www.sbsdk12.org

Board Members In Attendance

Nancy Harter, President
Laura Malakoff, Vice President

Robert Noël, Member
Kate Parker, Member

Board Members Absent
Annette Cordero, Member

REGULAR SESSION

A.1 Call to Order

Board president Harter called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

A.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Board president Harter led the pledge.

A.3 Spanish Translation

Alma Flores was present to provide Spanish translation.

A.4 Headsets for Hearing Impaired

Board president Harter announced that headsets were available for the hearing impaired.

A.5 Public Comments

None

ACTION AGENDA

B.1 Approval of Transfer of Santa Barbara Community Academy Grades K-3 Pupils to La Cumbre Junior High School

Superintendent Sarvis reviewed the history and facilities needs of the Santa Barbara Community Academy.

Jonathan Leech, environmental planner with DUDEK, reviewed the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutory exemption under CEQA that applies to school closures, and traffic effects. The traffic study recommendation is to stagger Santa Barbara Community Academy start times and for a Santa Barbara Community Academy second bus to arrive after the first bus leaves.

Craig Price, legal counsel with Griffith & Thornburg, LLP, spoke about the advisability to filing a CEQA categorical exemption of the application process.

David Hetyonk, director of facilities and operations, stated a correction needed to be made on page 6 of the staff report in the second paragraph. The sentence should include the word "not" and should read, "However, in evaluating these projections, the traffic study draws the conclusion that these additional incremental traffic impacts are not unusual from the standpoint of what could be expected for a typical school closure or transfer." Mr. Hetyonk spoke about project costs, funding, and option E. Board president Harter inquired about a shared health office. Mr. Hetyonk stated he would bring back to the board more information on separate health offices.

Public Comments:

- Michael Lazarovits spoke in favor of moving Santa Barbara Community Academy (SBCA) to La Cumbre Junior High School (LCuJHS).
- Sara Cocklin and Heather John spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Dayna Jordan spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Laura Baker spoke about gathering all facts before making a decision to move SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Don Haws spoke in opposition to moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Holly Haws spoke in opposition to moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Mary Overall spoke about traffic and safety issues in the LCuJHS neighborhood.
- Marie Henderson spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Judy Ricker spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Julie Woodward spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Peter Platt spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Donna Lee spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS and Amy Alzina as principal of SBCA.
- Tamara Venzor spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Lynn Rodriguez spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Russell Clay Ruiz spoke in opposition to moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Luther Lewis spoke about traffic studies.
- Brad Hufschmid spoke in opposition to moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Dean Jensen spoke about traffic around LCuJHS and a number of questions he had about the move.
- Kristin Shi spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Armando Ortega spoke in favor of whatever decision the board decides to make.
- Tim Quiroz spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS and Amy Alzina as principal of SBCA.
- Vikki Keosian spoke about the how students arrived to school 22 years ago vs. now.
- Erin Cavazos spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Ed Cavazos spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Katherine Hogenson spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Angela Barrera spoke about traffic issues and spoke in favor of any decision the board makes.
- Ken Estrada spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Alice Tarbush spoke in opposition to moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- John Foran spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.
- Kum-Kum Bhavnani spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS and Amy Alzina as SBCA principal.
- Larry Good spoke in favor of moving SBCA to LCuJHS.

The board adjourned for a five-minute break.

A motion was made by board member Parker to move Santa Barbara Community Academy's third grade to La Cumbre Junior High School for the 2007-08 school year, and for the Santa Barbara Community Academy kindergarten through second grade to move to La Cumbre Junior High School in the summer of the 2008-09 school year based on option F. Option F, put together with input from both school sites, would come back to the board within 30 days for approval and would preserve programs for both schools. Seconded by board member Noël.

Board member Parker's motion was amended by board member Noël to add specifying E.1, and to create a transition team. Seconded by board vice-president Malakoff.

Motion failed. Vote: 2-2-1 / Ayes: 2 (Malakoff, Noël) / Noes: 2 (Harter, Parker) / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Parker to move either Santa Barbara Community Academy third grade or second and third grades for the 2007-08 school year, and to move kindergarten through first or kindergarten through second grades during the summer of the 2008-09 school year based on a floor plan option that preserves programs for both schools and finalized by input from a district and site administration team. Seconded by board member Noël.

Motion failed. Vote: 2-2-1 / Ayes: 2 (Noël, Parker) / Noes: 2 (Harter, Malakoff) / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

The board adjourned for a five-minute break.

A motion was made by board president Harter to approve moving Santa Barbara Community Academy grades kindergarten through third to the La Cumbre Junior High School campus and co-locate the Santa Barbara Community Academy and La Cumbre Junior High School at the La Cumbre campus beginning in the 2007-08 school year or as soon thereafter as technically feasible, based on option E with any modifications that the superintendent may recommend with input from both principals and bring back to the board for final approval. Seconded by board member Noël.

Board president Harter's motion was amended by board member Parker to add "preserving programs for both schools." Seconded by board member Noël.

Board discussion continued to re-word the original motion and board member Parker's amendment.

Board president Harter read the typed motion from an over-head to state approving the Santa Barbara Community Academy grades kindergarten through third to La Cumbre Junior High School and co-locate the Santa Barbara Community Academy and La Cumbre Junior High School at the La Cumbre campus in the 2007-08 school year, or as soon as thereafter as technically feasible, based on option E; subject, however, to any modifications that the superintendent may recommend with input from both principals, with the goal of preserving both school's programs and return the modified plans to the board for final approval. Seconded by board vice-president Malakoff.

Motion passed. Vote: 3-1-1 / Ayes: 3 (Harter, Noël, Malakoff) / Noes: 1 (Parker) / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Parker to appoint Amy Alzina as principal of the Santa Barbara Community Academy, kindergarten through sixth grades, starting immediately. Seconded by board vice-president Malakoff.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Noël that the Santa Barbara Community Academy enrollment should be capped at 420 students based on three classrooms each at kindergarten, first, second, and third grade levels and two classes each at fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Seconded by board vice-president Malakoff.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Noël that the Santa Barbara Community Academy shall dedicate funding to provide bussing from the Ortega school site to La Cumbre Junior High School on a permanent basis. Seconded by board member Parker.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Noël that the total projected construction costs exclusive of portables would be capped at these figures and any over-expenditures must come back to the board for approval. Seconded by board member Parker.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board member Noël that the board find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, and direct staff to process the related categorical exemption. Seconded by board vice-president Malakoff.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

A motion was made by board president Harter that the Santa Barbara School Districts' work with the city of Santa Barbara to minimize traffic impacts as a result of moving Santa Barbara Community Academy to La Cumbre Junior High School. Seconded by board member Parker.

Motion passed. Vote: 4-0-1 / Ayes: 4 (Harter, Malakoff, Noël, Parker) / Noes: 0 / Absent: 1 (Cordero)

E. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 11:13 p.m.

Attest:

Nancy Harter, President
Board of Education

Adopted by Santa Barbara School Districts Board of Education
on August 14, 2007

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