

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting

May 21, 2009

Approved Amended Minutes

1.0 ROLL CALL and ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Roll Call

President Dana M. Sales called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Board Present

Jack Dilles

Aaron Hinde

Arnold Levine

Kathy Mann

Vic Marani

Dana M. Sales

George "Bud" Winslow

Michael C. Watkins, Secretary

Staff Present

Barney Finlay

Theresa Rouse

Bill Sullivan

Brunella Deeds

Daniel A. Osher, Counsel

Harley Robertson

Allison Gold

Cathy Potts-Sales, CSEA

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Watkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of Agenda

President Sales noted that in order to accommodate travel considerations, it could be required to change the order of Agenda Item 12.2. It was M.S.C (Hinde/Levine) to approve the agenda with that stipulation.

Action # 704

Ayes: Unanimous

Abstain: None

Absent: None

4.0 REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Remarks from the Audience

There were no remarks from the audience.

5.0 APPEAL HEARING: DENIED INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER, SAN LORENZO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT / APPELLANT WOODARD

Appeal Hearing:
Appellant Woodard
Appeal Denied

The Board conducted an appeal hearing as prescribed by E.C. 46601 et seq and Board Policy 5118.1 relative to the denied interdistrict transfer application filed by appellant. A full transcript of the hearing is on file.

Action #705

It was M.S.C. (Levine/Dilles) to uphold the district's denial of the interdistrict transfer request.

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine, Sales
Noes: Mann, Marani, Winslow
Abstain: None
Absent: None

6.0 APPEAL HEARING: DENIED INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER, SAN LORENZO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT / APPELLANT HOPPER

Appeal Hearing:
Appellant Hopper
Appeal Upheld

the Board conducted an appeal hearing as prescribed by E.C. 46601 et seq and Board Policy 5118.1 relative to the denied interdistrict transfer application filed by appellant.

Action #706

A full transcript of the hearing is on file.

It was M.S.C. (Marani/Winslow) to overturn the denial and allow appellant to attend Scotts Valley Middle School.

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine, Mann, Marani, Sales, Winslow
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

It was noted the Agenda incorrectly listed approval of the March 19, 2009 minutes. It was noted to correct the agenda item to April 19, 2009 minutes. It was M.S.C (Winslow/Hinde) to approve the Consent Agenda as amended..

Ayes: Unanimous
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Action #706

7.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS

There were no deferred items.

Deferred Consent Items

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

April 20, 2009 letter from the Board to Principal Robert Martin, New Brighton Middle School acknowledging the School's achievement in being named a California Distinguished School.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Watkins reported the following:

Superintendent's Report

Summer Youth Employment Program

The County Office of Education's Student Support Services, under the direction of Jo Ann Allen, is partnered with the Workforce Investment Board and volunteer employers to provide summer employment to 400 county youth under a program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Green Careers Good Times Article

A recent article appeared in the Good Times relative to local school programs for students interested in entering the green careers workforce. The article includes information on the Regional Occupational Program, Green Careers Center at Natural Bridges High.

ROP Student Art / Watsonville Fly-in Poster

Associate Superintendent Alice Talnack who has been involved as an organizer of the Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show for many years invited the participation of ROP students in designing this year's poster. Ross Whitlock, a student in the ROP Computer Graphics course taught by Jenny Angelacos at Aptos High, submitted the chosen entry.

Science Fair and Awards Ceremony

The 2009 County Science Fair, co-sponsored by the County Office of Education, Seagate Technologies and UCSC, set new student participation records as well as standards of innovation and creativity. 2800 students participated in their schools' science fairs and, of those, 426 students representing grades K-12, progressed to the County Science Fair which was held March 21 and 22nd at the Civic Auditorium. Congratulations are extended to participating students, Nancy Serigstad, Program Coordinator, and Ellen Hickey, program secretary for another very successful Fair. We extend our sincere gratitude to Seagate Technologies which funds the program, and to the other organizations and businesses that contribute awards to the students. The awards ceremony, was conducted Monday, March 30th at which time it was announced that Santa Cruz will send 40 projects to the California State Science Fair. Nancy Serigstad who had just returned from the International and State Fairs reported on those events.

Letter of Acknowledgment

Superintendent Watkins was provided a copy of a note of

appreciation from a staff person at the Pajaro Valley Unified School District Human Resources Department acknowledging the support from Debbie Stanbra, COE Information Technologies Manager, in assisting the District in bringing up a new computerized personnel information system and responding to assistance inquiries following installation.

Inside Education March Session

The March Inside Education session introduced participants to the concept of What Does it Mean to be Well Educated?.

CTE Summit

The first of what is planned to be an annual Career Technical Education Summit was hosted by the Santa Cruz County CTE Community Collaborative on April 1, at Cabrillo College co-hosted by Cabrillo and the County Office of Education, middle and high school district superintendents, the county superintendent of schools and college administrators.

Region 5 Superintendents Meeting

The four county superintendents and key administrators met to discuss current regional programs, how to more effectively and efficiently provide services to schools and districts in the region and to investigate opportunities to provide new partnerships that provide needed services to school districts.

United Way Campaign Celebration

On April 2nd, Brunella Deeds and Superintendent Watkins had the opportunity to receive an award on behalf of the County Office of Education staff. Staff was awarded a Gold Award in recognition of being among the top contributors to the 2008 United Way Campaign. Mrs. Deeds received personal recognition as United Way Campaign Coordinator of the Year.

Senator Simitian Presentation

Several trustees attended the education forum presented by State Senator Joe Simitian on March 26th. The event was well attended by the education community in Santa Cruz County and audience participation in the question and answer forum was thoughtful.

CCSESA Quarterly Meeting

County superintendents met for the quarterly meeting on March 19 and 20th in Monterey.

College Awareness Month Kick-Off Event

Superintendent Watkins attended the Santa Cruz/Live Oak Education Collaborative, College Awareness Month Kick-off Event the first of this month.

Visit to Homeless Shelter

Trustee Marani and the Superintendent participated in an invited tour of the Santa Cruz Rebele Family Homeless Shelter and an introduction to Dr. Douglas Loisel, Executive Director.

Beach Flats Community Center Auction and Art Exhibit

The superintendent attended the Auction and Art Exhibit fundraising event for the Beach Flats Community Center. The Center is a community and family resource center in the largely low income, Latino neighborhood and provides much needed social and health services to residents of the area.

The California Endowment, Partners for Peace / Healthy Communities Event

Superintendent Watkins was a panelist at an event in Los Angeles sponsored by the California Endowment and the Center for Healthy Communities. The event, titled Partners for Peace: Barrios Unidos and the Movement to End Violence, focused on the Santa Cruz partnership as a replicable community model on violence prevention.

Meeting with Phil Wowak

Phil Wowak, nominee for Santa Cruz County Sheriff, and Superintendent Watkins met to discuss partnerships between the two agencies.

Central Coast Energy Services

I met with Dennis Osmer, Executive Director, Central Coast Energy Services, Inc. Central Coast Energy Services, located in Watsonville, delivers the U.S. Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program to low income families in Monterey, San Benito, South Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. The program stands to receive considerable funding under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. Mr. Osmer hopes to partner with education agencies to ensure funds reach targeted low-income families in south county.

Follow-up Meeting with Pajaro Valley Unified School District
Superintendent

Superintendent Watkins met with District Superintendent Dorma Baker to debrief and discuss many issues brought forth during the County Board of Education Retreat conducted in Watsonville, April 19th

Monthly/Periodic Meetings Attended

Children's Network	SECA
New Teacher Steering Committee	Superintendents' Council
Migrant Head Start Board Meeting	First 5 Commission
Pajaro Intergovernmental Relations Committee	

10.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to conduct.

President Sales noted that the presenter of Agenda Item 12.2 had arrived and, as previously approved, that item would be heard out of sequence.

Change in Sequence

12.2 Presentation and Discussion: Oversight Responsibilities of the Authorizing Board of a Chartered School

Presentation and Discussion: Charter School Oversight

Margaret Merchat, General Counsel, Schools and Colleges Legal Services, presented an overview of the Board's responsibilities on charter school oversight, the charter petition process and specifics regarding the Pacific Collegiate Charter School memorandum of understanding. Counselor Merchat responded to questions from Board members. Specifics included appointment of a Board member to a charter board; appointing a board-to-school liaison, potential conflicts, liabilities of the Board, due diligence reporting, fiscal reporting, review and accept annual budget, renewal, revocation, definition of county-wide charter, diversity of school population and the community, and facilities.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

New Business and Action Items

11.1 Adopt 2009-2010 Santa Cruz County Office of Education School Year Calendar

Following discussion relative to the process of formulating the calendar and a proposal to expand the calendar committee to include district, union and community representatives, it was M.S.C. (Levine/Mann) to adopt the 2009-2010 County Office of Education school year calendar.

Adopt 2009-2010
County Office of
Education Calendar

Ayes: Dilles, Hinde, Levine,
Mann, Sales, Winslow
Noes: Marani
Abstain: None
Absent: None

12.0 REPORTS/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Reports/Discussion/
Information Items

12.1 Presentation: Education Metrics from a Businessman's Perspective

Education Metrics

Mr. Bill Beecher, Aptos resident, presented for the Board's consideration, his proposal relative to measuring student achievement similarly to the business metric of return on investment. Specifically, Mr. Beecher's formula is return on Investment is equal to the API test score results in comparison to the dollar amount spent per pupil as an average daily attendance amount. Mr. Beecher provided local district ROI comparison based on his formula. His formulas extended to overhead loading vs. restricted funding, teacher productivity and yield; i.e, graduating students.

12.2 Presentation and Discussion: Oversight Responsibilities of the Authorizing Board of a Chartered School

This item was conducted out of order and is previously recorded.

12.3 Santa Cruz County Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report for Quarter Ended March 31, 2009 County Treasurer's Report March 31, 2009

Associate Superintendent Finlay briefed the Board providing highlights from the quarterly report. Mr. Finlay noted the proficiency of the County Treasurer in keeping a comparatively healthy portfolio the current economic climate. He summarized the portfolio structure, investment details, securities activity and other information to give a better understanding of the investment activity during the reported quarter. Mr. Finlay reported interest rates are currently at one-third of what they had previously been and are projected to decrease further in the next fiscal year. Trustee Marani inquired as to what leverage investment pool member agencies have in management of the investments to which Mr. Finlay replied that the County Treasurer controls investments as long as his actions abide with established policy.

12.4 2009-10 Santa Cruz County Office of Education Preliminary Budget Report 2009-2010 Preliminary Budget Report

Associate Superintendent Finlay presented the Board with a summary of the County Office of Education 2009-2010 preliminary budget, a full copy of the preliminary budget having been provided to trustees in the Board packets. As a Prelude, Mr. Finlay provided the Board with an update on the state budget. Responding to comments, Mr. Finlay discussed the lease on the Bay Avenue facility, election costs, full time equivalent staff reductions, and a \$168,000 deficit presented in the preliminary budget. Mr. Finlay noted that the deficit could be covered by funds expected to be provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Trustees Hinde and Marani expressed preference for a balanced budget.

12.5 Committee and Board Reports Committee and Board Reports

12.5.1 Agenda Committee

President Sales noticed that the June regular meeting agenda will include

A first reading of the Board Compensation and Reimbursement policy, discussion relative to and a report from the Preschool advisory Committee. The Board Retreat is scheduled for June 18, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Scotts Valley Civic Center. The agenda will continue discussions relevant to Board roles, responsibilities and protocols that were not completed during the March Board Retreat. The addition of an item relative to Board trustee after-hour facility access will be included on the agenda. President Sales announced that refreshments and lunch would not be provided.

- 12.5.2 Community Outreach and Legislative Committee**
Committee Chair Marani reported he has met with a Live Oak senior citizens group regarding the Live Oak School District parcel tax and Mr. Marani's advocacy for proper notice to senior citizens regarding the tax exemption.

Trustee Marani noticed the Board that former U.S. Congressman Tom Campbell would be the Lincoln Speaker Series featured speaker on Wednesday, May 27' at Cabrillo College. He added that Meg Whitman would be a Series speaker during the summer months.

Board President's Report

President Sales attended the Pacific Collegiate School 10th anniversary event.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Hinde attended the DUI in Schools presentation at Scotts Valley High School, reporting it was well attended and engaging. Trustee Hinde also attended Career Night at Soquel High School.

Trustee Levine announced the placement of local students at the state spelling competition. Mr. Levine Attended the CSBA Delegate Assembly and Legislative Conference in Sacramento. He met with

Senator Abel Maldonado while in Sacramento.
Mr. Levine attended ROP Portfolio Showcase.

Trustee Marani, attended the most recent Teen Peer Court and extended kudos to organizers and participants, noting the court has a very positive impact on the students. Mr. Marani as discussed possible insurance company funding resources with the Teen Peer Court program coordinator.

Trustee Marani accompanied Superintendent Watkins to the St. Francis WASC review.

Mr. Marani attended the first meeting of the Special Education Parant Teachers Association (SEPTA).

Mr. Marani reported that Bethany University Administrators are interested in working with schools in teacher outreach programs.

Trustee Dilles attended the Pacific Collegiate anniversary celebration. He also attended the County Office of Education picnic observance of Day of the Teacher and Classified Employees Week.

12.6 Additions/Deletions to future Board Agenda Items

Trustee Marani requested the addition of a future agenda Item: Cost Savings by Consolidated Elections

He suggested deleting current items a) District Average Daily Attendance Projections and c) Televised Board Meetings

13.0 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND COMING EVENTS

President Sales reviewed the schedule of near-term meetings and events.

Meetings and
Coming Events

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

President Sales adjourned the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Watkins
Secretary to the Board
County Superintendent of Schools

/wrs