

**SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

January 4, 2005  
**MINUTES**

Douglas E. Giles  
Educational Resource Center  
9619 Cuyamaca Street  
Santee, California

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members present:

Dustin Burns, President  
Barbara Ryan, Vice President  
Allen Carlisle, Clerk  
Dan Bartholomew, Member  
Dianne El-Hajj, Member

Staff present:

Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
John Tofflemire, Director, Human Resources  
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

Dr. Lis Johnson, Superintendent, and Dr. Pat Shaw, Assistant Superintendent were not present at the meeting.

2. President Burns invited students Lindsey Reyes, Brittany Fernandez, and Ashley Keyes, to lead the members, staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.

*Motion: El Hajj*

*Second: Ryan*

*Vote: 5-0*

4. Adjournment in Memory of Nina Fox

President Burns announced that tonight's meeting would be adjourned in the memory of Nina Fox, a community member who contributed her time to Santee School District. She and her husband participated in the Oral History Program and shared their experiences being in a concentration camp. The students always remembered Mrs. Fox. A certificate was presented to Mrs. Fox's family.

**B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

1. Superintendent's Report

- 1.1. Requests for Use of Facilities
- 1.2. Enrollment Report
- 1.3. Developer Fees Collection Report
- 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

Mr. John Tofflemire reported that the first STRS retirement workshop was held and there was a large turnout. Mr. Tofflemire introduced Susan Beard, a teacher at Carlton Oaks that was being offered probationary status at the meeting.

2. Recognition of AJ/Ryan Foundation

Mr. Tofflemire shared the history of the AJ/Ryan Foundation and introduced the Board of Directors. The Foundation was founded in memory of two Santee School District students who died from a tragic accident. President Burns presented plaques of appreciation and recognition to Ric and Susie Reyes, and Scott Pongracz and Bonnie Polselli, the parents of the boys whose memory lives on in the lives of the children who have been touched. The Foundation was recognized for their donations to the District and the community which totaled approximately \$125,000.

**C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

President Burns invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. There were no public comments.

**D. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Santee School District Board of Education Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association  
President Burns opened the public hearing on the Board of Education's initial proposal to modify the current collective bargaining agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association. There were no comments. The public hearing was closed.
2. Santee Teachers' Association (STA) Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Current Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and STA  
President Burns opened the public hearing on the Santee Teachers' Association initial proposal to modify the current collective bargaining agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers' Association. There were no comments. The public hearing was closed.

**E. CONSENT ITEMS**

Items listed under Consent are considered to be routine and are acted on by the Board with one single motion.

**Superintendent**

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes

**Business Services**

- 2.1. Approval of Travel Requests
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report
- 2.3. Acceptance of Donations
- 2.4. Approval of Student Teaching Partnership Agreement with California State University, San Marcos
- 2.5. Authorization to File Notice of Completion on Bid #03/04-001-01: Portable Building Move and Set-Up

**Educational Services**

- 3.1. Approval of Extended Field Trips

**Human Resources**

- 4.1. Personnel, Regular
- 4.2. Certification of Competence in Evaluation and Instructional Methodologies
- 4.3. Ratification of Employer-Employee Collective Bargaining Agreement with California School Employees Association

It was moved and seconded to approve Consent Items with the exception of Items E.1.1 and E.4.1, which will be voted on separately.

*Motion: El Hajj*

*Second: Bartholomew*

*Vote: 5-0*

**E.1.1** Member Bartholomew asked that the November 20, 2004 minutes be corrected to reflect the correct times for the entering closed session and reconvening to public session. The correct times were 11:45 to 12:45 in closed session.

*Motion: El Hajj*

*Second: Carlisle*

*Vote: 5-0*

**E.4.1.** Member Carlisle moved approval with exception of Item K .1. Member El-Hajj seconded the motion.

*Motion: Carlisle*

*Second: El Hajj*

*Vote: 5-0*

Member Ryan moved to approve E.4.1. (Item K.1.).

*Motion: Ryan*

*Second: El-Hajj*

*Vote: 3-2 (Carlisle, no; Bartholomew, no)*

**F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

Superintendent

1.1. Community Member's Request to Speak to the Board Regarding Proposition X

Mr. Tofflemire shared the background of this request and introduced Mrs. Maria Lenhoff, who requested the opportunity to address the Board to ask for the ability to send home communication to the community by sending home with students a flyer about the facts of Proposition X. Mrs. Lenhoff provided Board members with a sample fact sheet. She also requested to be allowed to post similar 4' x 8' signs on school district property and have the information sent out via the Superintendent's communication newsletter and email list serve to provide parents with links to the City of Santee's web site to access this information.

President Burns invited audience members who turned in Request to Speak cards to address the Board.

Robin Reardon, a community member, announced that the court case on the ballot language was decided and no changes were made. She expressed her concern about sending home information with students on this issue, as case law does not allow city government to take sides in an election or bestow any unfair advantage to any position, and this should apply to the school district as well. She would like to request that if Mrs. Lenhoff's proposal is accepted that the committee that is in favor of Proposition X has the same opportunity to send unbiased information home from their campaign.

Rob McNelis, a district parent and community member, spoke in support of Mrs. Lenhoff's request.

Member Ryan believes that the Board has every right and responsibility to take a side if it is not a political candidate or political party and shared that in July the Board took the official position to support growth in Santee.

Member Bartholomew's understanding is that the District cannot use public property or resources to promote the success or the failure of a measure or a candidate but does have the capability to provide factual information.

Member El-Hajj asked if, with two new Board members since July, the Board position is still opposed to any initiative that is in opposition to growth in Santee. Members Bartholomew and Carlisle both fully support the general plan as it is written and are opposed to the initiative opposing growth.

Member Ryan does not believe that the schools should be involved in the distribution of materials about the measure; however, she shared that if the Board has information they are interested in sharing with parents it should come from the voice of the Board.

Member Bartholomew believes that it would be difficult to find fair and impartial facts that both sides of the issue felt were fair and impartial.

Member El-Hajj shared that she is willing to take the heat on her own words but not on information going home with students from Yes or No committees on Proposition X. She said that our schools are about education. Member Carlisle shared that flyer distribution is not necessarily the best way to get information home anyway.

President Burns feels that defeating Proposition X would help the school district and would truly bring about some change. He is interested in the Board coming together on what they feel would be appropriate to send home and create information to share with parents. Member Carlisle agreed that if there was interest to send information home, the Board should create their own.

An audience member requested to speak on this issue but was denied per Board Policy, as the Board had already begun deliberations.

Member El-Hajj moved to deny the request to post informational signs on school campuses.

*Motion: El Hajj*

*Second: Bartholomew*

*Vote: 4-1 (Burns, no)*

Member El-Hajj recommended that this topic return for review to consider notifying and reminding the community that there is an election. It could return as Board communication and the Board could decide how they choose to communicate. Member Ryan encouraged both sides of the Proposition X issue to enhance voter registration and reminded the audience that voter registration cards are available in school offices.

**Business Services** (None)

**Educational Services** (None)

**Human Resources** (None)

**G. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS** (None)

1. First Readings (None)

2. **Second Readings – Revised Board Policy #1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures and AR 1312.3.**

*Motion: El-Hajj*

*Second: Carlisle*

*Vote: 5-0*

**H. BOARD COMMUNICATION**

Member Ryan shared information about attendance reporting and being asked by a juvenile court judge about school districts not providing timely attendance information, as the Board adopted a resolution to allow the court and probation officers to access that information. She would like administration to investigate to assure that we are providing access to the juvenile courts system as promised.

Member El-Hajj asked about the calendar meeting being initiated by Grossmont's Board of Education. Mr. Tofflemire shared the proposals that are currently being discussed. The Board President and Superintendent will attend the meeting and bring back information for discussion following the meeting.

Member Carlilse wished everyone a Happy New Year.

President Burns shared the expulsion letters that are sent to parents and asked Dr. Stumbaugh to provide information about the option for parents to request that the Board not receive the background information prior to the expulsion hearing. Dr. Stumbaugh has investigated this with attorneys and the County Office of Education and there is no requirement in California Education Code to make this provision to parents. There is the thought that it may have been inserted to assure parents that the Board would remain impartial. Dr. Stumbaugh also inquired of Dr. Bruce Murphy and received the explanation that for years the documents were sent home prior to an expulsion hearing and a previous assistant superintendent, feeling that the Board should not get them prior to the hearings, asked that the language be provided in order to prevent any perception that the Board would have the opportunity to prejudge the case. Dr. Murphy said that no parents have ever requested this provision be enforced. Member Carlisle found it useful to have the background information providing the students' history prior to the expulsion hearing. Board member consensus was to eliminate the paragraph that offers the option and the Board will continue to receive the documents prior to expulsion hearings.

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

President Burns announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

1. Conference with Labor Negotiator

*Agency Negotiator: John Tofflemire, Director, Human Resources*

*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association (STA)*

*California School Employees Association (CSEA)*

2. Student Discipline Matters

3. Conference with Real Property Negotiators

*Location: Renzulli Site and Santee School Site*

*Agency Negotiator: Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services*

4. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
*Superintendent*

The Board entered closed session at 8:30 p.m.

**J. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION/ ADJOURNMENT**

The Board reconvened to public session at 11:22 p.m. No action was reported. The January 4, 2005, regular meeting adjourned at 11:22 p.m.

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Allen Carlisle, Clerk

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Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D., Secretary