

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

January 31, 2006
MINUTES

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

A. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order by President Ryan at 6:15 p.m.

Members present:

Barbara Ryan President
Allen Carlisle Vice President
Dan Bartholomew, Clerk
Dianne El-Hajj, Member (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
Dustin Burns, Member (arrived at 6:25 p.m.)

Staff present:

Dr. Lisbeth Johnson, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Dr. Pat Shaw, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
John Tofflemire, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Bill Clark, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Linda Vail, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Minnie Malin, principal of Carlton Hills School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda

Member Carlisle moved to approve the agenda.

Moved: Carlisle

Second: Bartholomew

Vote: 3-0

(Burns, El-Hajj, absent)

B. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

There were no requests from the public to speak.

C. CONSENT ITEMS

Business Services

2.1. Approval of Travel Requests

2.2. Approval to Purchase Live-On Resident Mobile Home

2.3. Approval of Extended School Site Due Diligence Period

Educational Services

3.1. Approval of 2005-06 Consolidated Application, Part II

Member Carlisle moved to approve the Consent Items.

Moved: Carlisle

Second: Bartholomew

Vote: 3-0

(Burns, El-Hajj, absent)

D. STRATEGIC PLANNING AND BUDGETARY RESOURCES

1. Demographics and Student Achievement

Dr. Johnson presented information on the demographics of Santee and how the community is rapidly changing. The median household income is now \$73,000, up from \$54,000 in 1999. Dr. Johnson shared charts showing the population distribution by age and ethnicity. Dr. Johnson reported on student achievement expectations of the future and the prioritization of resources to support student achievement. Administration recommended that the Board establish an API target of 875-900 in the next three years and asked for Board direction on student achievement expectations for the next three years. Board members had different opinions. Member Burns indicated the though our school district could move to a 900 API in three years. Member Bartholomew indicated he did not wish to use a number to target student achievement. He believes that if resources are provided to support student achievement, scores will continue to increase. He is

interested in seeing how resources affect API scores because the data appears to show that the higher income level communities receive higher API scores. Dr. Johnson shared that administration has visited schools with similar demographics and higher student achievement to see what strategies they are using to increase student achievement. Member Carlisle said he would like to look at 850-875, however, he asked about the impact of special education classes on the API scores for some school. Member Carlisle said that the school staff's number one request has been to decrease combination classes and asked if this could be looked into. Dr. Johnson confirmed that additional combination classes come as a result of tightening staffing due to declining enrollment. Member El-Hajj said that she would rather target proficiency rate growth and not an API number. She believes it is more important to bring students from basic to proficient than to aim at an API target number. She does not want to assign a target API goal but would like to use proficiency data to determine student growth. Dr. Johnson said that focusing efforts to increase student proficiency will increase API scores and data is extremely important to measure student proficiency. Member Burns shared that his investigation shows that high student achievement is driven by data and believes that our educators need quality assessment data. President Ryan also believes that 900 is a realistic target for Santee students to achieve. The direction provided to the Superintendent was to bring to the Board an achievement plan that considered a blend of the outcomes discussed by Board members.

2. Student Achievement

Dr. Shaw presented strategies in three focus areas to improve student achievement: student learning, educational opportunities, and student resiliency and empathy skills. He shared a plan to develop a challenging and rigorous curriculum, which included: a thinking curriculum, curriculum mapping, collaborative lesson design and planning, technology (QZAB), Never-streaming, and implementing a student assessment data base program. Dr. Shaw stressed the importance of providing professional development and shared a 3-5 year plan for professional development. The plan included the need for additional professional development staff for Power of Learning Communities (PLC), QZAB, student assessment, and curriculum areas. He also presented ideas to restructure the instructional day and class structures to maximize learning. Educational opportunities included development of an Arts program, Foreign Language classes, after-school programs, and a fee-based preschool program that includes before- and after-school care. Dr. Shaw also presented student support development in the areas of social/emotional development, negative influences, and a health education program. He also hopes to find additional funding for the social worker program.

In order to achieve the targets for 2006-07, administration recommended that the District develop and implement a professional learning community professional development plan and implement a student assessment data base program.

Board members approved the plan presented by Dr. Shaw but with the specific decisions regarding expenditures to be made when budget decisions are made.

3. Enrollment Projection and Staffing

John Tofflemire shared the enrollment trends for East County as we continue to experience student decline. He recommended that the Board continue to consider declining enrollment even though the demographers project a flattening in the decline. The reality was shown on a graph that depicted more decline than the demographer had projected. Mr. Tofflemire's recommendations included: project enrollment based upon an average 4% decline, maintain staffing ratios of 20:1 in K-3 and 32:1 for grades 4-8, reduce certificated staff through attrition, leaves and/or reduction in temporary staff, and to be conscious of the need to address potential increases in staff costs if enrollment shows significant improvement. Member Burns would like to know, just as information, the savings if class size was increased to 33:1.

4. Multi-Year Budget

Bill Clark presented information on the budget projection for the next several years. He recommends caution because the State budget is very uncertain over the next few years. He shared that next year's State budget impact is promising, with an estimated increase of \$1.7 million. He also recommended that as the \$1.8 million QZAB funding dollars that were originally designated for long-term debt repayment, are repaid, the dollars be maintained as additional reserve as a cushion for economic uncertainty over the next few years. His additional recommendations included: continue cautious and conservative enrollment projections, recognize

the need for quality employee compensation while maintaining quality programs, and consideration of program restorations. The Board approved Mr. Clark's recommendations.

5. Restoration

Dr. Johnson presented top priorities for restoration for the remainder of this school year using the STRS shift money that was restored to the District. The level one priorities were: restoring hours to the special educational and VI instructional assistants, web-master position, pay raise for the campus supervisors, HVAC technician position, assistant mechanic position, and restoring custodians from 11 to 12 months. Level two priorities included a maintenance and operations custodian and a gardener. The level one and two priorities will return to the Board for consideration. Board members commented that they want to consider the level three priorities as soon as the Governor's budget is confirmed. Member Burns stated that he would support library clerks before the other level three priorities.

6. Facilities Modernization

Bill Clark presented a facilities modernization planning update. Administration asked the Board for direction in funding options for modernization. Mr. Clark requested Board approval to: establish modernization funding target total dollars of \$150 million, seek proposals from a bond communication and public relations firm, formalize bond priorities, formalize a financing plan and identify professional resources as needed, and set Board site visits. President Ryan asked Board members if they would support a bond election. Member Carlisle said he would support a bond to provide school modernization. Member Bartholomew does not support a bond because he believes that a lot of improvements could be made in the proposed funding dollars of \$150 million, without \$45 million in bond dollars. Member Burns does not see modernization as a possibility without a bond. Member El-Hajj believes that the community may get excited about some good changes to the schools and modernization would be a wonderful opportunity that has not been available for many years. President Ryan is comfortable with going forward with a bond. The Board decided to move forward with a general obligation bond. Mr. Clark will provide the modernization list to the Board to prioritize.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The January 31, 2006 special meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Dan Bartholomew, Clerk

Lisbeth A. Johnson, Ed.D, Secretary