

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
October 10, 2006**

M I N U T E S

Present: Cindy Ruby, Cathie Thermond, Michael Gipe
Absent: Shinku Sharma, John Poo

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Cindy Ruby.

2. Closed Session

Board members met in Closed Session for:

- 2.1 Personnel Report
- 2.2 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- 2.3 Conference with Labor Negotiator Lane Weiss

CLOSED SESSION – Personnel, Negotiations, Legal Matters

Pursuant to State law (Section 54954.2), closed sessions are not open to the public and may only be held for collective bargaining discussion, employment or dismissal of an employee, disciplinary matters relative to student(s) or employee(s), meeting with legal counsel on pending or anticipated litigation, emergency situations, and other exceptions as provided by law, including Government Code sections 54957 and 54957.6.

3. Open Session

Board President Cindy Ruby called the meeting into Open Session and announced action taken in Closed Session.

A motion was made by Michael Gipe and seconded by Cathie Thermond to approve the Personnel Report and Personnel Report Addendum.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Gipe

ABSENT: Sharma, Poo

NOES: 0

Personnel Report

New Hires

Elvira Sanjines is being recommended for an Aide III position at Redwood Middle School, effective September 25, 2006

Milika Mataele is being recommended for a Crossing Guard position, effective September 25, 2006.

Marciel Ney is being recommended for the Noon Duty position at Foothill Elementary School, effective September 25, 2006.

Cresencio Rodriguez is being recommended for a substitute Custodian position, effective September 25, 2006.

Yuchi Wang is being recommended for the Noon Duty position at Foothill Elementary School, effective September 27, 2006.

Personnel Report Addendum

Resignation

Christin Kazmierczak, an RSP Aide at Argonaut Elementary School is resigning effective November 17, 2006

4. Action/Consent Items

- 4.1 Approval of Agenda
- 4.2 Approval of Minutes for September 26, 2006
- 4.3 Approval of Warrants for September 2006

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to approve the Action Consent Items including an amended agenda. The agenda was amended to move Item 6-Spotlight: Introduction of New Teachers and Item 7.1 - Silicon Valley New Teacher Project Report before Action/Consent Items and to postpone Item 8.5 Board Self Evaluation.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Gipe

ABSENT: Sharma, Poo

NOES: 0

5. Communications

5.1 Community Comments

There were no comments from the community.

5.2 Comments from Employee Groups

STA representatives Susan Kim and Sandy Waite-Lopez reported they were happy to attend the meeting.

5.3 Comments from the Superintendent

- Superintendent Lane Weiss thanked Pragati Grover, who will be sworn in as a new Board of Trustees member on December 12, 2006, for joining the meeting tonight.
- Superintendent Weiss, CBO Ellen Tipton and Board President Cindy Ruby, attended the Collective Bargaining Summits sponsored by ACSA, CASBO, and CSB. The major themes included communication and school finance.
- Superintendent Weiss and Dianne Wall attended the 2006-07 Standards and Assessment Update Meeting presented by the California Department of Education. We will participate in a pilot program for assessing special education students this November.
- Human Resources Director Kym Plaing is attending the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Conference in Sacramento this week.
- Superintendent Weiss is working with Amy Schaumburg on redesigning part of our district web page. This work focuses on communication and will include board meeting summary updates, flyer information, and upcoming events in SUSD.

5.4 Comments from the Board

- Board member Cathie Thermond reported she attended the Redwood Middle School PTA meeting where topics of discussion included Math Curriculum. A parent forum will be held tomorrow. Cathie also commented on the welcoming atmosphere on her last visit to the District Office.

- Board President Cindy Ruby reported she enjoyed attending the Collective Bargaining Summits in Sacramento. She hopes to use information from the conference this year.

6. **Spotlight: Introduction of New Teachers**

Superintendent Lane Weiss welcomed and introduced teachers new to Saratoga Union School District for 2006-2007:

Argonaut Elementary School

Sheila Chako	2 nd Grade
Lori Chaykin	5 th Grade
Christie Sanden	5 th Grade

Foothill Elementary School

Sheridan Kurtz-Fenster	4 th Grade
------------------------	-----------------------

Saratoga Elementary School

Jennifer Woelfel	1 st Grade
Susan Jacobs	4 th Grade

Redwood Middle School

Jason Borgen	7 th Grade Science
Christine DeCaporale	7 th Grade Core
Amber Olsen	8 th Grade Math
Markus Puhvel	7 th Grade Spanish
Suzanne Ross	6 th Grade Math/Science
Todd Shaff	8 th Grade Math
Debbie Skelton	7 th Grade RSP
Eric Witter	Dean/Leadership

Districtwide Schools

Alexandra Dalmau	K-2 Music
Joanne Volpe	OT
Kathy Wolff	Speech

Those present stood and introduced themselves. The Board and the Superintendent thanked them for attending the meeting.

7. **Report Items**

7.1 **Silicon Valley New Teacher Project**

Rosalie Chako and Kristi Schwiebert reported on the Silicon Valley New Teacher Project. They shared a handout of information from the Santa Cruz/Silicon Valley New Teacher Project BTSA Induction Program including: Program Completion Requirements: Ryan and SB 2042 Credential Holders, a calendar of meetings for the Los Gatos-Saratoga Cohort, Induction Standards 15-20 Essential Questions and Recurring Themes, and a sample Choice Board. This a rigorous program in which teachers receive 10 UCSC units and go from a preliminary to a clear credential in two years. This year Rosalie supports 8 teachers at Redwood Middle School and Kristi supports 7 K-5 and Redwood Middle School teachers. Teachers create action plans which are taken to forums each Friday where they are scored. This program has provided a streamlined process aligned with the same standards.

Board members and the Superintendent thanked Rosalie and Kristi for their presentation.

8. **Report/Action Items**

8.1 **Oak Street, Saratoga - Heritage Lane**

A group of community members requested board support for designating Oak Street, Saratoga as a Heritage Lane. Kathleen Casey represented a group of neighbors who have signed a petition in favor of the proposal which will include a plaque being placed at both ends of the street. Letters written by community members Willys and Betty Peck were also shared. Kathleen requested a letter from the Board of Trustees indicating their support.

Board members requested information about any possible restrictions in development or changes to the Saratoga School property on Oak Street that would come about as a result of the designation of Oak Street as a Heritage Lane. Kathleen will provide detailed information about the parameters of such a designation to the Board.

A motion was made by Michael Gipe and seconded by Cathie Thermond to lend support to the proposal that Oak Street, Saratoga be designated as a Heritage Lane with the intention of submitting a letter to community groups contingent upon receipt of detailed information about the requirements and parameters of such a designation.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Gipe, Poo

ABSENT: Sharma, Poo

NOES: 0

8.2 **Budget Update**

Budget Recommendations List

Superintendent Lane Weiss reported additional data and continued dialog will be needed in regard to the request for a K-5 Vice Principal. This will be brought back to the board at a future meeting. We continue to await information regarding access to the state one-time funding. Also under continued discussion are the new telephones at Redwood Middle School.

Budget Reserve Policy

Superintendent Weiss shared the following information from School Services of California:

- Do Basic Aid Districts Need More Reserves?
- Do You Have Updates on Statewide Costs for Salary and Benefits?

This information will be shared with the Saratoga Teachers' Association (STA) and the Saratoga Classified Association (SCA) bargaining groups.

Superintendent Weiss reported he spoke with STA leadership who expressed some concerns regarding timing of the budget reserve policy and concern about money being placed into the budget reserve before negotiations on compensation have concluded.

Superintendent Weiss will draft language for a district reserve policy and work with the Santa Clara County Office of Education, STA and SCA on what makes sense for SUSD.

8.2 **Second Reading – Board Policy Draft – (Series 0000) Philosophy – Goals – Objectives And Comprehensive Plans**

Superintendent Lane Weiss presented Series 0000 board policies for a second reading to the board of trustees. The policy sub-committee has reviewed these policies and CSBA has provided the board with this copy for review and adoption. Superintendent Weiss reviewed the latest updates in this series and there are no changes.

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to approve Board Policy Series 0000 Philosophy – Goals – Objectives and Comprehensive Plans.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Gipe
ABSENT: Sharma, Poo
NOES: 0

8.4 Williams Quarterly Report

Superintendent Lane Weiss presented the quarterly complaint report as required by the Williams Settlement. No complaints were filed with any school in the district during the reporting period July 1 – September 30, 2006.

Superintendent Weiss works each year with principals on replenishment of textbooks. This year some textbook orders took place in the fall at Redwood Middle School. Any concerns about the number of textbooks must be brought to the attention of the superintendent. It is part of our due diligence to make inquiries at the site, the warehouse and on orders.

There is a provision in the Education Code which states 15% of instructional materials funds may be used to purchase supplemental materials that are not on the state approved list.

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to approve the Williams Quarterly Report for the reporting period July 1 – September 30, 2006.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Gipe
ABSENT: Sharma, Poo
NOES: 0

8.5 Board Self Evaluation

The Board amended the agenda and postponed this item until a future meeting.

9. Communications

9.1 Community Comments

- Pragati Grover congratulated Superintendent Lane Weiss for successfully completing his first half-marathon last Sunday in San Jose.

10. Future Agenda Items

The Board discussed items for future agendas.

- Board Self-Evaluation
- Quarterly Goals Update
- Board Policy
- Facility Use and Planning, Part I and Part II
- Budget Update

Next meeting: October 24, 2006

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Clerk of the Board