

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Regular Board Meeting  
March 14, 2006**

**M I N U T E S**

Present: Cindy Ruby, Shinku Sharma, Cathie Thermond, Michael Gipe, 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 Review of Recommendations for Teachers' Permanent Status
- 2.2 Personnel Report for March 14, 2006
- 2.3 Superintendent's Contract Negotiations

**3. Open Session**

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

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Shinku Sharma to:

- Approve the hire of Sandra Moser as a Crossing Guard, effective March 6, 2008
- Approve the resignation of Denise Sanguinetti, Foothill Elementary School teacher (currently on leave of absence) effective June 15, 2006
- Deny the request to extend a leave of absence from Kristen White-Barrett, Saratoga Elementary School teacher (currently on leave of absence)
- Deny the request to extend a leave of absence from Jean Nelson, Foothill Elementary School teacher (currently on leave of absence)

AYES: Ruby, Sharma, Thermond, Gipe, Poo

NOES: 0

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve the Recommendation for Permanent Status of the following Second Year Probationary Teachers, effective August 2006.

Matt Weber	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Argonaut School
Tracy Kinsch	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Foothill School
Laurie Marshall	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	Foothill School
Maria Miller	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	Foothill School
Juliana Orlando	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Foothill School
Juliana Orme	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Foothill School
Sally Perry	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	Foothill School
Kim Huebner	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Saratoga School
Scott Lyon	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	Saratoga School
James Conn	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Core/Yearbook	Redwood Middle School
Kory Headley	Special Ed. – RSP	Redwood Middle School
Paul Navarro	Spanish	Redwood Middle School
Angela Steely	Counselor	Redwood Middle School

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

The Board President announced the Board will return to Closed Session at the end of the meeting to continue discussion of Item 2.3 Superintendent's Contract Negotiations.

**4. Action/Consent Items**

- 4.1 Approval of Agenda
- 4.2 Approval of Minutes for February 28, 2006
- 4.3 Approval of Warrants for February 2006
- 4.4 Approval of Contract with KSAR
- 4.5 Approval of Gift:  
HP Desktop Computer, dc7600s/P4, donated by Mrs. Edith Kuo, HP Matching Gift Program, to be housed at Argonaut School

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to approve the Action Consent Items, with the exception of Item 4.4 which at the recommendation of the Superintendent was pulled from the agenda for further study.

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

**5. Communications**

**5.1 Community Comments**

- There were no comments from the community.

**5.2 Comments from Employee Groups**

- There were no comments from employee groups.

**5.3 Comments from the Superintendent**

- Superintendent Weiss met with Argonaut School parents to gather input for the principal selection process. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006.
- Superintendent Weiss will join teachers and staff on Saturday, March 18, 2006, to score MARS math examinations.
- Superintendent Weiss thanked Human Resources Director Kym Plaing and Assistant Superintendent Louise Levy for attending teacher recruitment fairs at the Santa Clara County Office of Education, University of California Santa Cruz, University of Santa Clara and partnering in a job fair with Los Gatos Elementary and Los Gatos Joint Union High School Districts.
- Superintendent Weiss announced a District Wellness Fair has been scheduled for May 4, 2006, Redwood Middle School, 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.
- Superintendent Weiss invited board members to attend the Silicon Valley New Teacher Breakfast on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:45 a.m. at Villa Ragusa in Campbell. It is a testimonial to the great things that happen in this program.
- Copies of The Minds of Boys, by Michael Gurian and Kathy Stevens, were distributed to board members in preparation for the workshop on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**5.4 Comments from the Board**

- There were no comments from the Board.

**6. Spotlight: Foothill School Book Club for Kids**

Foothill Principal Nancy Ondrejka thanked Board members for the opportunity to share this wonderful program. She introduced fourth grade teachers Juliana Orlando,

Alare Orme, Diane Rabago, Sandy Waite Lopez and Laurie Marshall who taught fourth grade last year when the idea for the *Book Club for Kids* program began.

Students presented highlights about their *Book Club for Kids* program which meets every two weeks. Students are given the opportunity to share six jobs in the club: facilitator, summarizer, illustrator, word finder, creative director, and story mapper. Presenting to the board were Isabella Zuccarino, Anu Sreedhara, Mimi Troyer, Claudia Tischler, Matt Foley, Jason Ju, and Jaskiran Nat.

The Board thanked the students for coming and sharing about their Book Club.

*At this time, Board member Cathie Thermond left the meeting.*

7. **Action/Discussion Items**

7.1 **Public Hearing to Sunshine Tentative Agreement with Saratoga Classified Association**

Tentative agreement on compensation with the Saratoga Classified Association has been reached. Board President Cindy Ruby opened a Public Hearing on February 28, 2006 and invited public comments. Copies of the Tentative Agreement have been available for review at school sites and at the District Office.

No comments were received. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:07 p.m. and the agreement was presented to the Board of Trustees for ratification.

Superintendent Weiss reported the Tentative Agreement was approved by the Saratoga Classified Association (SCA). SCA member Dale Engelson added that the vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Michael Gipe and seconded by John Poo to approve ratification of the Tentative Agreement with the Saratoga Classified Association as presented.

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

7.2 **Approval of the Second Interim Report – J200 and Budget Update**

Chief Business Official Ellen Tipton presented the 2005-06 Second Interim Report –J200 for Board approval and reviewed changes. The revised estimated ending balance for 2005-06 with all changes to date is \$259,719.00. A new three year budget projection will be presented at the next board meeting.

A motion was made by Shinku Sharma and seconded by Michael Gipe to approve the Second Interim Report-J200.

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

7.3 **2005-06 Single Plans For Student Achievement**

Assistant Superintendent Louise Levy presented the 2005-06 Single Plans for Student Achievement from Argonaut, Foothill, Saratoga and Redwood Schools and requested Board approval.

Highlights of the school plans include an analysis of current practices, school goals, budgets, Title I plans for all K-5 schools, and a focus on Three Dimensional Success.

Superintendent Lane Weiss added that the next cycle for school plans will start in the spring and when new data becomes available, it will be added in the fall. School plans will be presented to the Board in October 2006.

Superintendent Weiss and the Board thanked principals and School Site Councils for their work on the school plans. Redwood Middle School Site Council was commended for imbedding the work of the Redwood Middle School Task Force in the site plan.

A motion was made by Shinku Sharma and seconded by John Poo to approve the 2005-06 Single Plans for Student Achievement from Argonaut, Foothill, Saratoga and Redwood Schools.

AYES: Ruby, Sharma, Gipe, Poo

ABSENT: Thermond

NOES: 0

#### **7.4 Committee Meeting Summaries**

##### **Update - Health and Welfare Task Force**

Human Resources Director Kym Plaing updated the Board on the work of the Health and Welfare Task Force. There have been three meetings this year. The estimated increase for Blue Cross for next year is 12.66%. Rates for Kaiser will be available next month. A Wellness Fair for employees has been scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. at Redwood Middle School.

##### **Update -Technology Committee**

Superintendent Lane Weiss updated the Board on the work of the District Technology Committee. School sites have provided input regarding the technology plan. A report to the Board will be done in late May or early June. Community and parent resources will help to accelerate the installation of the new phone system

##### **Update - History-Social Science Instructional Materials Task Force**

Assistant Superintendent Louise Levy updated the Board on the work of the History-Social Science Instructional Materials Task Force. The Task Force attended a workshop at the Santa Clara County Office of Education and has selected two publishers to pilot for grades K-3 (Harcourt and Scott Foresman) and two for grades 4-5 (Harcourt and McGraw Hill). Redwood Middle School will pilot Teachers Curriculum Institute (TCI) and Glencoe. The two pilot periods will be March – April and April – May. During the week of May 8<sup>th</sup> and on the evening of May 10<sup>th</sup>, parents and the community will be invited to review the pilot textbooks.

Superintendent Weiss reported on recent controversy about the accuracy of textbooks. He will share links to articles on how publishers are addressing concerns, being sensitive to various cultural groups and offering a balanced view.

A recommendation for textbook adoption will be presented to the Board on May 23, 2006 and a request for approval will be made on June 13, 2006.

**7.5 Election Filing Fee Report**

Superintendent Lane Weiss discussed with the Board how fees for school board elections are handled in Santa Clara County. This is being reviewed by legal counsel and the results of this research will be shared with the Board.

*At this time Cathie Thermond returned to the meeting.*

**8. Communications**

**8.1 Community Comments**

There were no comments from the community.

**9. Future Agenda Items**

The Board discussed items for future agendas.

Next Meeting: March 28, 2006, Redwood Middle School Library  
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 Board Workshop: Gender Based Learning Differences  
6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Closed Session  
6:30 p.m. – Open Session

- Budget Update
- Health and Welfare Update
- Wellness/Disaster Preparedness Update

**10. Adjournment to Closed Session**

Board members returned to Closed Session to continue discussion of item 2.3 Superintendent's Contract Negotiations.

**11. Open Session**

Board President Cindy Ruby reported on action taken in Closed Session.

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to increase the compensation package for Superintendent Lane Weiss to a base salary of \$172,000.00 and an auto allowance of \$400.00 effective July 1, 2005.

AYES: Ruby, Sharma, Thermond, Gipe, Poo

NOES: 0

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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Clerk of the Board