

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
November 8, 2005**

M I N U T E S

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Board President Cathie Thermond.

2. Closed Session

Board members met in Closed Session for:

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

3. Open Session

Board President Cathie Thermond called the meeting into Open Session and announced action taken in Closed Session and that the Board will return to Closed Session at the end of the meeting.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve the Personnel Report as presented.

AYES: Thermond, Poo, Ruby, Sharma

NOES: 0

ABSENT: Gipe

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by John Poo to re-order the agenda and move Item 6 - Spotlight: Argonaut School Make a Lunch Program, to be next on the agenda.

AYES: Thermond, Poo, Ruby, Sharma

ABSENT: Gipe

NOES: 0

4. Spotlight: Argonaut School Make a Lunch Program

Principal Sue Brooks shared highlights about Argonaut School students' participation in the *Make a Lunch* community outreach program which provided lunches for students affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Third grade students, Preethi Ravi, Timothy Chau and Maya Ravichandran from Susan Johnson's class shared their experiences in helping color bags filled with non-perishable food for the Mississippi students. First graders in Mrs. Makoff's class who spoke about their participation in the project included Jason Zhao, Kurt Bench, Kaitlyn Dieck, Maila Ruggiero and Chih Hsuan Hsu.

Board members thanked Sue Brooks, parents, teachers and students for coming and sharing their experience with the *Make a Lunch* program.

5. Action/Consent Items

- 5.1 Approval of Agenda
- 5.2 Approval of Minutes for October 25, 2005
- 5.3 Approval of Personnel Report for November 8, 2005
- 5.4 Approval of Warrants for October 2005
- 5.5 Approval of School Services Contract for 2005-06

A motion was made by Shinku Sharma and seconded by Cindy Ruby to approve the Action/Consent Items.

AYES: Thermond, Poo, Ruby, Sharma

ABSENT: Gipe

NOES: 0

Personnel Report

Resignation

Theresa Judd, Crossing Guard at Saratoga Elementary, is resigning effective November 14, 2005.

6. Communications

6.1 Community Comments

- There were no comments from the community.

6.2 Comments from Employee Groups

- There were no comments from employee groups.

6.3 Comments from the Superintendent

- Superintendent Lane Weiss reminded the Board and community about the presentation by Dr. Ruth Parker, a nationally recognized and highly acclaimed mathematics educator and author. Dr. Parker will present *Mathematics and Your Child's Future: The Basics and Beyond* on Wednesday, November 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Redwood Middle School Library. On Thursday, November 10th, Dr. Parker will meet with administrators, teacher leaders and community members from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. for a follow-up discussion.
- Superintendent Weiss wished everyone a successful K-5 conference week which begins November 14th.
- Superintendent Weiss reported that the District GATE Advisory Committee will begin meeting and would like to have a Board member participate.

6.4 Comments from the Board

- Shinku Sharma attended the Redwood Middle School PTA meeting where an in depth presentation about writing assessments was given by Principal Beth Polito. Every parent will receive a letter from the principal about how their student has done.
- Cathie Thermond attended the Argonaut PTA meeting. There is now a parent volunteer who will coordinate after school programs with the Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department.

Board member Michael Gipe joined the meeting at this time.

7. Action/Discussion Items

7.1 STAR Report, Part I

Superintendent Lane Weiss reported on the results of STAR testing from spring of 2005. His presentation included the following information:

- STAR – “A Snapshot in Time”
- Summary of Results
- Academic Performance Index
- No Child Left Behind, Federal Accountability System vs. State Accountability System
- Building a Data Rich/Information Rich Culture in SUSD – Multiple Measures, Quality Instruction, and Communication
- Preview of STAR changes
- Next Steps

Copies of the Superintendent’s STAR Report, Part I are available for review at the District Office.

7.2 PowerSchool Update

Superintendent Lane Weiss reported on the progress of district staff’s implementation of *PowerSchool*.

- Basic calendar, staff and student has been entered into the database
- Ready to start testing attendance processes at elementary schools in November
- Each site continues to work on completing transfer of demographic and CSIS information for each student.
- Working on completing the teacher access process
- Beginning to installing photos of students
- January 20th begin training Redwood Middle School teachers on *Powergrade*
- After becoming state compliant we will generate reports in *PowerSchool*
- Next year’s goal is to provide access for parents

7.3 Second Reading: Procedure 5000 Open Intradistrict Enrollment

Superintendent Lane Weiss presented Procedure 5000 - Open Intradistrict Enrollment for Second Reading and requested board approval.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve Procedure 5000 - Open Intradistrict Enrollment as presented.

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

7.4 Second Reading: Procedure 5210 Interdistrict Attendance Agreements

Superintendent Lane Weiss presented Procedure 5210 – Interdistrict Attendance Agreements for Second Reading and request board approval.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve Procedure 5210 -Interdistrict Attendance Agreements as presented.

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

7.5 2006-07 School Calendar

Superintendent Lane Weiss reviewed discussions that have taken place with the high school district regarding planning for the 2006-07 school year calendar. Options presented by the high school district include having the first semester end before the December recess. Planning and criteria for the SUSD calendar discussed at this time is limited to starting and ending dates, graduation, vacation and holidays. (Staff Learning and Collaboration Time, (SLCT) conference weeks, staff development and teacher work days will be discussed at a future meeting.)

Superintendent Weiss will request input regarding the 2006-07 calendar from the Board, principals, employee groups and Presidents' Council.

Board discussion included the following:

- The calendar has been a collaborative effort over several years between the elementary and high school districts.
- Parents and community would like calendars for the elementary and high school districts to be as similar as possible.
- It is strongly problematic to have graduations for Redwood Middle School and Saratoga High School on the same day.
- No major changes until 2007-08 – we need at least a year to communicate any major change.

Superintendent Weiss will compile the calendar input and present three options to the Board.

7.6 Call for Nominations for California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly

Board members discussed interest in being nominated for the CSBA Delegate Assembly. At this time no Board members expressed interest in being nominated.

8. Communications

8.1 Community Comments

- There were no community comments.

9. Future Agenda Items

The Board discussed items for future agendas.

- Update on meeting with City of Saratoga/Saratoga Library
- Budget Workshops: November 29, 2005, 9:00 a.m., Redwood Middle School and in February 2006, TBA

Next meeting: November 22, 2005

10. Return to Closed Session

Board members returned to Closed Session to continue discussion of Item 2.2 - Conference with Labor Negotiator Lane Weiss.

11. Open Session

Board President Cathie Thermond reported no action was taken in Closed Session.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Clerk of the Board