

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

April 20, 2021
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Ryan called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Members present:

Barbara Ryan, President
Elana Levens-Craig, Vice President
Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk
Ken Fox, Member
Dustin Burns, Member

Administration present:

Dr. Kristin Baranski, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services
Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

2. District Mission

President Ryan welcomed those in attendance and recited the District Mission.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Member El-Hajj led members, staff, and audience, in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

President Ryan announced today's meeting would be adjourned in memory of Mr. Robert C. "Bob" Vega, who recently passed away. She shared Mr. Vega was elected to the Board of Education in March 1977. He was elected as Clerk of the Board, in 1977; and then elected to serve as Vice President in December 1979. His term ended in November 1981. Member Ryan shared Mr. Vega served on the Board when she was elected in 1979 and noted he was very helpful in her transition on the Board. The Board of Education extended their deepest sympathy to Mrs. Betty Vega and the Vega family.

Member Fox moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Fox</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Burns</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

- 1.1. Developer Fees and Collection Report
- 1.2. Use of Facilities Report
- 1.3. Enrollment Report

Superintendent Baranski noted there were no reports or presentations.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Ryan explained that given the current circumstances with COVID-19, the public was given the opportunity to submit comments online or by phone prior to the meeting. There were two (2) public comments. Public comments were shared with the Board and Superintendent prior to the meeting.

ID	First Name and Last Name	Representing	Public Comment
1	Jean Brittain	Gavin Brittain	Would it be possible to do a distance learning drive thru promotion at a central location like last year. The distance learning families have made the choice to do distance learning in order to avoid unnecessary contact with others. The only choices my family was given was no ceremony or an in person at the school of the teachers they have had during distance learning or the school they originally attended. I feel the district should consider having another option of a drive thru promotion so that we can stay distanced but still celebrate this accomplishment. This promotion would allow all the distance learning 8th grade teachers to attend and the students to feel acknowledged. My families safety is important and I hope you recognize this need for the distance learning families. Thank you.
2	Candace Schmitthenner	My Children	Have you considered surveying the parents to see if distance learning is a need for next year? Especially, given the fact our at-risk students will not have the opportunity to receive a vaccine before the school year begins. I suspect the need will be greater than you are anticipating. I feel that Santee School District should continue to provide multiple learning options for families. The Homeschool program is not a favorable choice for all families currently in Distance Learning.

D. CONSENT ITEMS

President Ryan shared comments from the public were requested in advance and there were no public comments on consent items.

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes
- 2.1. Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Warrants
- 2.3. Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders
- 2.5. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequests
- 2.6. Approval/Ratification of General Services Agreements
- 2.7. Approval/Ratification of Agreements for Mileage Reimbursement in Lieu of District Transportation
- 2.8. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Transactions Charged to District Issued Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)
- 2.9. Approval of Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Required by the Williams Settlement
- 2.10. Approval/Ratification of Ninyo & Moore for Geotechnical, Special Inspection, and Materials Testing Services for the Chet F. Harritt Front Entrance Improvement Project
- 3.1. Personnel, Regular
- 3.2. Adoption of Resolution 2021-21 Declaring May 4, 2021 as Santee School District's Day of the Teacher
- 3.3. Adoption of Resolution 2021-22 Declaring May 16 - 22, 2021 as Santee School District's Classified School Employees Week
- 3.4. Approval of Shared Classroom Teaching Assignments for 2021 – 2022
- 3.5. Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding with San Diego Youth Services for Here Now Program
- 3.6. Short-Term Services Agreement
- 3.7. Approval of Short-Term Transportation Positions

3.8. Adoption of Resolution 2021-23 to Reduce and/or Eliminate Classified Non-Management Positions

Member El-Hajj moved approval of Consent Items.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Fox</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

1.1. 2021-21 School Reopening Update/COVID-19 Update

Superintendent Baranski shared it was a celebration of students "Learning Together," as the District was able to integrate cohorts successfully. She shared a slide of the celebrations at the sites as students were entering school grounds. Superintendent Baranski noted the Board asked that the students be celebrated upon cohort integration and expressed her appreciation to Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant to the Board and Superintendent, for her assistance in making this possible. She shared balloon towers and pom-poms were provided to every school to celebrate students "learning together" and students received wristbands that read "Santee School District · Learning Together." Superintendent Baranski shared excitement and being proud of everyone's work to make the District's cohort integration possible and noted other districts are still struggling to bring students back on campus. Superintendent Baranski shared COVID cases still remain low, down from seven (7) cases since the report on March 16, to two (2) cases for the past two weeks. Once again, Superintendent Baranski expressed her appreciation to staff for making the cohort integration possible and a success.

President Ryan agreed it was an exciting day for everyone. Member Burns shared his son, Jon, was excited to be back at school and being allowed to use the playground equipment.

Business Services

2.1. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, reported the monthly financial report was for cash and budget revision transactions posted through February 28, 2021; and shared the District is projected to meet all financial obligations with internal cash. He shared the District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$17,309,564. Mr. Christensen explained the reserve percentage updates, multi-year projections, use of one-time funds, and any changes presented during the May Revise, will be presented during the second meeting in June. Member Burns moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Burns</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

2.2. Current Facility Needs

Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, noted the information being presented was informational only, and any action was at the Board's discretion. Mr. Christensen explained that at prior meetings, the Board of Education has discussed the Comprehensive Facilities Needs List, and a subset of that list named the Current Facility Needs List was being presented tonight for discussion. He shared this would include the use of Remaining Land Sale Proceeds, 2021-22 Expanded Learning and COVID Response Funds, and Facilities Needs Set-Aside funds to assist with these facility

needs. Mr. Christensen provided an overview of the following project and funding sources.

Current Facility Needs
 Round 2 Priority List

DRAFT

Date: April 20, 2021		FUNDING				
Site	Project	Estimated Cost	(1) Remaining Land Sale Proceeds	(2) 2021-22 Expanded Learning and COVID Response Funds	(3) Facilities Needs Set- Aside	Comments
PRIDE Academy	Irrigation Water Well	\$200,000	\$200,000			Investigate feasibility
Cajon Park	Irrigation Water Well				\$200,000	Investigate feasibility
Cajon Park	Grass play field for primary				\$175,000	
PRIDE Academy	Grass play field for lower field	\$175,000			\$175,000	
Sycamore Canyon	Grass play field for area in back of LRC	\$175,000			\$175,000	Consider applying for Nbrhd Reinvestment Grant
Carlton Hills	Renovate front office to move VP from current location to front office with a small 70sf bump out addition under overhang roof cover	\$500,000	\$500,000			
All Sites	Video surveillance system	\$700,000	\$700,000			
All Sites	Install digital access control system for entry to all spaces	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000			
All Schools	Provide/improve outdoor learning spaces	\$270,000		\$270,000		Needs to be started ASAP for start of 21-22 school year
Carlton Hills	Add 2 portables to be used by YALE	\$170,000		\$170,000		Semi-permanent/movable; on-going lease payments from Developer fees; start ASAP
Rio Seco	Add 4 portable classrooms	\$280,000		\$280,000		Semi-permanent/movable; on-going lease payments from Developer fees; start ASAP
District Office	Repaint Exterior	\$30,000			\$30,000	
District Office	Remodel Board Room	\$100,000			\$100,000	
ERC	Repaint Exterior	\$50,000			\$50,000	
Total		\$3,760,000	\$2,500,000	\$730,000	\$905,000	

Member Levens-Craig asked if these projects would deplete the Facilities Needs Set-Aside funds; noted the importance of equity throughout the District; and inquired if the projects being presented were in priority order. Mr. Christensen shared there were approximately \$100,000 remaining in the set-aside funds; and noted that although items were not prioritized, he shared the need for the video surveillance system as a priority. He also noted the items in "green" were items that required a lengthy process to obtain. Mr. Christensen noted equity was not considered when developing the list. He shared the comprehensive list notes there are some schools that require a lot more than others. Member Fox shared remembering some items being ranked in priority order. Mr. Christensen shared the majority of those projects have been completed.

Member Fox inquired on "outdoor learning space." Mr. Christensen shared that would be different at each site. Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, shared attending webinars, by the California Department of Education, on green schools and outdoor learning; and shared various examples of outdoor learning currently happening throughout the District and statistics on the positive impact on children.

Member Burns noted the three funding sources added up to an estimated \$4.1 million and inquired if the remaining \$375,000 would be used on other projects. Mr. Christensen confirmed the remaining funds would be used for other projects. Member Burns noted his support for outdoor learning spaces. But explained his support would be contingent on equity and suggested allocating the funds based on enrollment. Mr. Burns noted his support of the video surveillance system. He shared that surrounding law enforcement agencies were surprised that the District did not have a system already in place. Member Burns reiterated the need for this system was for the safety of staff and students.

President Ryan noted this was an informational item only but noted there were the items that needed immediate action. Member Levens-Craig inquired on taking action on moving forward with the areas highlighted in green (learning spaces/portables). Member El-Hajj suggested moving forward with the portables and allow Administration time to discuss allocating the funds for learning spaces.

Member El-Hajj moved to proceed to purchase up to six (6) portables classrooms. Member Burns confirmed the use of the COVID Expanded Learning funds for this purchase. Mr. Christensen explained the COVID Expanded Learning funds would be used to cover the costs until the funds were available. After that, Developer Fee funds would be used to cover costs.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Fox</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>4-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

Human Resource/Pupil Services

3.1. Approval of Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, explained the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators was submitted annually in anticipation for the number of teachers requiring an emergency credential. Member Burns moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Burns</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

3.2. Ratification of Side Letter Between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association

Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources/Pupil Services, presented the District and the Santee Teachers Association negotiated side letter, regarding the 2021 Summer Academy rate of pay, for ratification.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Levens-Craig</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

3.3. Approval of Short-Term Positions

Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources/Pupil Services, shared that in anticipation for the need of short-term clerk typists and movers/drivers for the preparation and distribution of iPads for 2021-22 school year; and Project SAFE staff to help ensure student safety and engagement during summer programming, a list of short-term positions was being presented for approval. Member El-Hajj moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Burns</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

F. **BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS**

President Ryan explained item F.1.1. were second readings of Board Bylaws (BB) Actions by the Board (BB 9323.2); Board Minutes and Recordings (BB 9324); and Board Self-Evaluation (BB 9400). She noted item F.1.2. were first readings of Board Policies (Bp) Communication with the Public (BP 1100); Media Relations (BP 1112); and District and School Web Sites (BP 1113) and encouraged the Board to review and discuss any questions with administration.

1.1. Second Readings of Board Bylaws (BB):

- BB 9323.2 – Actions by the Board
- BB 9324 – Board Minutes and Recordings
- BB 9400 – Board Self-Evaluation

1.2. **First Readings of Board Bylaws (BB):**

- **BP 1100 – Communication with the Public**
- **BP 1112 – Media Relations**
- **BP 1113 – District and School Web Sites**

Member Burns moved approval of Second Readings: Actions by the Board (BB 9323.2); Board Minutes and Recordings (BB 9324); Board Self-Evaluation (BB 9400).

Motion:	<u>El-Hajj</u>	Ryan	<u>Aye</u>	Fox	<u>Aye</u>
Second:	<u>Fox</u>	Levens-Craig	<u>Aye</u>	Burns	<u>Aye</u>
Vote:	<u>5-0</u>	El-Hajj	<u>Aye</u>		

H. **EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION**

Melanie Hirahara, Santee Teachers Association President, shared being prepared to read a statement and take questions at the end.

On Monday, in person teachers had their third first day of school! Employees of our school district organized, planned, and implemented distance learning for all, then a hybrid am/pm schedule, and finally a return to a full day. A plan was created for each of these models but it was carried out successfully by the classified and certificated staff. The hours of planning and extra work are endless but I'd like to highlight some of them tonight.

In order to make the plans successful, teachers have:

- *Rearranged classrooms and removed furniture to make social distancing work.*
- *Learned and often trained themselves on new apps and programs to help students with digital learning.*
- *Learned to navigate Teams themselves while also teaching students and parents how to use the technology.*
- *Whenever a student was out due to an illness or quarantine, digital lessons were created or put together so students could continue learning at home.*
- *Communicating with parents - about their student, about curriculum, about progress, about expectations, about how they can help, about masks, about social distancing, about the importance of coming to school daily, etc.*
- *Learned and implemented the many protocols for sanitation, health screening, arrivals and dismissals. This often included cleaning plexiglass or taping the edges so students didn't cut themselves and now many teachers are sanitizing between groups in order to meet with intervention and RSP groups.*
- *Troubleshooting when the technology fails*
- *Many hours were spent creating "break schedules" and class schedules in order to meet the safety plan requirements.*
- *During hybrid teachers worked very long days that cut into their planning and prep time which extended their work day.*
- *Distance learning teachers spearheaded a new way of teaching for Santee and continued to progress and modify instruction to meet the needs of their students and families.*
- *Distance learning also created a new classroom environment and many new ways to deliver curriculum while keeping kids engaged.*

As we all know, none of us worked in isolation to carry out the plan to return students to full time on campus. Site administrators worked in conjunction with the District office to coordinate site specific plans for reopening for each of their sites. Classified staff in the maintenance department worked tirelessly and often overtime to disinfect, move furniture, put up plexi-glass, take down plexiglass, install handwashing stations, and even more to provide a safe environment for staff and students. Classified staff in the office coordinated subs when cohorts or teachers were quarantined, tackled the dreaded engagement forms, new ways of taking attendance, and still smiled while trying to explain the ever changing plans to the parents and students of our community. Instructional assistants and campus aides took on duties outside of their normal work just to make this plan a success. Technology provided support to students, parents and teachers throughout the distance learning period and beyond. Food services provided meals for every student for free this year! Transportation tackled a logistical nightmare but yet, worked it out to get our students to school safely and in a timely manner.

STA would like to recognize that all of us working together to analyze the plan, carry out the plan, and change the plan when things didn't work or when regulations changed have made our 20-21 school year, though unique and trying, a success.

President Ryan expressed her appreciation to Mrs. Hirahara and for everyone's hard work. Member El-Hajj commended Mrs. Hirahara for acknowledging classified staff and their hard work to make cohort integration a success.

President Ryan noted this section of the agenda was Employee Association Communication, and asked Teresa Edgerton, CSEA #557 Chapter President, if she wanted to communicate. Ms. Edgerton, echoed, Mrs. Hirahara's sentiments on classified employees' hard work, and noted classified employees are paid less. She shared some employees continue to work various jobs throughout the day, to make this possible. Ms. Edgerton noted everyone's desire to make this a success, along with certificated staff. She shared classified staff has been working all year to make sure everyone stays healthy and safe. Ms. Edgerton shared the students' excitement to return to campus together.

President Ryan expressed her appreciation to Ms. Edgerton. Member El-Hajj acknowledged the importance of classified staff in the schools; and their hard work. Member Fox expressed his appreciation to Ms. Edgerton and classified staff. He noted his grandson shared it was more troublesome for the students to adjust to the cohort integration than the teachers. Mr. Fox expressed his gratitude towards Mrs. Hirahara and teachers for making this seem seamless.

Member Burns noted that in his opinion, a lot of school districts have failed children in bringing them back for in-person learning. He noted that although the District does not get the deserved recognition, the Board acknowledges it is because of the staff and what we do for the students. Member Burns expressed his gratitude towards all employees, parents, and community members, for their support during these difficult times. He noted everyone's frustrations with the changing guidance and expressed his gratitude to classified staff for their flexibility and always doing what is right for the students.

I. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Superintendent Baranski shared President Ryan had been re-elected to another term on Delegate Assembly. The Board congratulated President Ryan.

Superintendent Baranski inquired on the design concept of the Board Room's back wall. Upon discussion, the Board asked for a conceptual drawing of the project. Superintendent Baranski explained that in addition to the Board meetings, the modernization of the room would help with professional development, workshops, etc. and discussed some of the projects being proposed for the room.

Superintendent Baranski shared guidance on gatherings and future of Board meetings. She explained that until June 14, 2021, and while in "orange tier," indoor gatherings were strongly discouraged, and allowed with modifications (no food/drink) and limited to 25 people. Superintendent Baranski recommended keeping the existent format and discuss again in June. President Ryan noted the importance of discussing the format of future meetings and communicating the outcome before the start of the next school year.

Superintendent Baranski noted promotion schedules were ready to be shared at this meeting, but one of the local high schools moved their graduation and it conflicted with three schools. Superintendent Baranski shared the schools are planning for in-person promotions, following social distancing guidelines, limited guests, and possible live streaming. She noted the promotions will be very minimal. Superintendent Baranski shared the schools opted to hold one promotion and limit capacity and give the students the opportunity to promote together instead of splitting the class. Member Burns suggested this year, for safety purposes, each Board member and Executive Council attend a promotion. He explains this avoids being at multiple schools around various crowds. The Board and Executive Council agreed to each attend one ceremony. Superintendent Baranski noted the schedule would be sent as soon as it was finalized.

Superintendent shared this year's Salute to Excellence format. She noted the event was scheduled for Tuesday, May 25 at Rio Seco's Amphitheatre. Due to the current gathering restrictions, she recommended honorees be broken down into two different groups.

- Group 1: 6:00 – 6:30 pm
 - o District Teachers/Classified Employees of the Year
 - o Administrators of the Year
 - o Special Employee Recognitions

- Group 2: 7:00 – 7:30 pm
 - o Retirees
 - o PTA Presidents

Superintendent Baranski shared a copy of the agenda, program, invitation, and guest list for the upcoming dedication ceremonies at PRIDE Academy, Sycamore Canyon, and Chet F. Harritt. She shared the guest list and noted the invitees by site. The Board asked that a student representative be at each ceremony. Member Burns asked precedence be given to someone who supported the bond measure, over a City Council member, if needed. He shared one of the city council members publicly shared their lack of support of the District's bond measure efforts and noted the District would fail. Member Burns acknowledged that with the community's goodwill, the bond measure passed, and the Board has been able to keep their promise to the community and complete all the proposed projects.

Member Burns shared cohort integration was an exciting day. He noted that at his son's school, they were greeted with pompoms and everyone was excited for being together. Member Burns shared everything was very well organized. Parents knew the process and procedures for drop off, etc. Staff was placed throughout the schools. He noted the teachers coordinated so that one was taking temperature checks upon students entering the school instead of the classrooms, and everything worked. Member Burns reiterated students' excitement for being together and expressed being proud of everyone's hard work.

Member El-Hajj shared speaking to some students and how happy they were to see friends that were in a different cohort.

Member Levens-Craig expressed excitement for the cohort integration and seeing students using the playground equipment. She shared teachers had some great projects for Earth Day.

President Ryan shared the need to follow-up on the Board and Superintendent evaluations before June.

J. **CLOSED SESSION**

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

1. **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (Gov't. Code § 54956.8)
Purpose: Negotiations
Agency Negotiators: Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent
*Employee Organizations: Santee Teachers Association (STA); and
Classified School Employees Association (CSEA)*

2. **Public Employee Performance Evaluation** (Gov't. Code § 54957)
Superintendent


The Board entered closed session at 8:19 p.m.

K. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:23 p.m. and reported no action had been taken in Closed Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the regular meeting of April 20, 2021 was adjourned at 10:23 p.m. The meeting was adjourned in the memory of former Santee School District Board Member, Mr. Robert C. "Bob" Vega.



Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk



Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary