

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

April 18, 2023
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President El-Hajj called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present:

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

Administration present:

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

2. District Mission

President El-Hajj welcomed those present and invited the audience to recite the District Mission.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mia Lawson, a 4th grade student at Carlton Hills, led members, staff, and audience, in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

President El-Hajj presented the agenda for approval. Member Burns moved approval.

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

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

- 1.1. Developer Fees and Collection Report
- 1.2. Enrollment Report
- 1.3. Routine Water Testing at Schools

Superintendent Baranski noted the water testing had been concluded at Carlton Hills. She noted that as a precautionary measure, testing was performed on all drinking fountains (70) on campus and shared there were four (4) additional fixtures that required corrective action. Superintendent Baranski noted all drinking fountains are open and within normal range.

Superintendent Baranski shared a draft letter to families notifying them of the testing result findings. Upon discussion, the Board agreed to have Board members, District Office, and School

Administration available to meet with parents to discuss any concerns, after the notification was received. The meeting date was set for Tuesday, April 25 at 6:00 pm, at Carlton Hills.

2. **Spotlight: Mental Mentor Program – Andrew Lawson, Carlton Hills Student**
The Board recognized Andrew Lawson, a 6th grade student at Carlton Hills, for creating the Mentor Mental Program. Andrew explained the program offers peer mentorship for students that are struggling in school and shared a few success stories. The Board expressed their appreciation to Andrew for his leadership and initiation of a great program to help his peers.
3. **Spotlight: Mrs. Evonn Avila, Executive Assistant I, Business Services**
The Board recognized, and congratulated, Mrs. Evonn Avila on her retirement. On behalf of the Board, President El-Hajj expressed their gratitude for her 27.5 years of service to Santee School District, her dedication, and professionalism during her tenure.
4. **Presentation of the Board of Education’s Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association (STA)**
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Services/Pupil Services, shared Santee School District Board of Education’s initial proposal to modify Article XIV – Compensation Provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the Santee School District and STA.
5. **Presentation of Santee Teachers Association’s (STA) Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between Santee School District and STA**
Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Services/Pupil Services, shared Santee Teachers Association’s initial proposal to modify Article IX – Class Size; Article X – Transfers; Article XI – Assignment and Reassignment; Article XV – Salary Provisions; Article XII – Leave Provisions; Article XIII – Hours of Employment; Article XVI – Employee Benefits; and Article XXIII – Term of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Santee School District and STA.

Copies of the Board’s and STA’s proposals were posted for the public to read at the Santee Chamber of Commerce, Santee City Hall, District Education Center and all District site offices. Public hearings followed later in the meeting.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President El-Hajj invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. President El-Hajj noted there was a request to speak.

Krista Miller shared an email about her teaching methodologies that she was asked to prepare by the Principal, which she eluded led to her dismissal. She noted emailing Board members and receiving no response.

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Public Hearing for Santee School District Board of Education’s Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association (STA)**
The public hearing for the Santee School District Board of Education’s Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Santee School District and Santee Teachers Association (STA) was opened. With no comments, the hearing was closed.
2. **Public Hearing for Santee Teachers Association (STA) Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Santee School District and STA**
The public hearing for Santee Teachers Association (STA) Initial Proposal to Modify Articles of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Santee School District and STA was opened. With no comments, the hearing was closed.

E. CONSENT ITEMS

President El-Hajj invited comments from the public on any item listed under Consent. There were no public comments.

- 1.1. Approval of Minutes
- 2.1. Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report
- 2.3. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Warrants
- 2.4. Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders
- 2.5. Authorization to Sell/Dispose of Surplus Items
- 2.6. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequests – *pulled for separate consideration*
- 2.7. Approval/Ratification of General Services Agreements
- 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. Adoption of Resolution No. 2223-13 To Close Fund 57608 01-00 for the Santee Explorer Academy Charter School at the San Diego County Treasury
- 2.11. Authorization to Solicit Informal Bids through the CUPCCAC Process for the Sycamore Canyon School Parking Lot Ramp Project
- 3.1. Approval to Increase the Agreement with San Joaquin County Office of Education to Provide Claims Administration Services for the Medi-Cal Billing Option Program
- 3.2. Approval Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Coastal Speech Therapy, Inc. for Speech Therapy
- 3.3. Adoption of the 2022-2023 Santee Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan
- 4.1. Personnel, Regular
- 4.2. Ratification of Short-Term Services Agreement
- 4.3. Approval of Shared Classroom Teaching Assignments for the 2023-2024 School Year

Member Burns asked to pull item 2.6. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequests. Member Ryan moved approval of Consent Items, with the exception the item pulled for separate consideration.

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

- 2.6. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequests – *pulled for separate consideration*
Member Burns noted pulling the item to discuss the donation of the *I Am Jazz* books. He explained not supporting the *I Am Jazz* book, and/or other sensitive literature of any subject matter, for primary grade students without some type of plan in place to notify parents that their student checked-out what could be construed as sensitive literature. Member Burns shared being supportive of parents' rights and wants to make sure parents are aware their student has checked out a book that may be sensitive in nature so they can have a conversation with their child, if they have any questions. He noted that because no system was in place, he was unable to support the item.

Member Levens-Craig noted the definition of "sensitive" material would vary. Member Burns suggested that as elected officials they could define it. He suggested providing an opportunity for the Superintendent to develop a plan, with minimal impact on staff, that affords parents the opportunity to opt out from having access to sensitive literature or be notified if their student checks out literature which could be construed as sensitive.

Superintendent Baranski noted the possibility of the current system having the ability for parent notification of books their student checks out. Member Burns noted the District would be doing their part in notifying parents and it would place some responsibility on the parents to do their due diligence as needed; and reiterated the partnership between the parents and public education.

Superintendent Baranski explained the books had not been received but it was common practice to accept forthcoming donations.

President El-Hajj noted the donation of \$15,000 for District-wide student events and scholarships from NFL Flag San Diego/Inland Valley; and \$10,000 from the Sycamore PTA for a digital marquee.

Member Burns noted he supported the donations from NFL Flag San Diego/Inland Valley and from the Sycamore PTA but was unable to support the item because there was no plan in place for the notification to parents if their student checked out sensitive literature. Member Ryan moved approval.

Member Burns expressed his appreciation to the Board for the ability to hold discussions and respecting each other's opinions.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Ryan</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Fox</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>4-1</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Nay</u>		

E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

1.1. Approval of Agreement with Frantz Law Group, APLC - Social Media Litigation

Superintendent Baranski noted that at a County Superintendents' meeting, the Frantz Law Group explained representing various school districts throughout the State that are banning together to take action against the implications and concerns of social media (Tic Toc, Instagram, YouTube etc.) and the impacts and effects it causes at the schools. She recommended the District partake in the litigation. The Board inquired on the effects of YouTube and Apple since those are the programs and devices being used at the schools, and any potential expenses. Superintendent Baranski noted the District uses an educational platform of YouTube, which does not include advertisements or pop-up announcements; different from the other YouTube version; and explained Apple is very conservative when it comes to students and places many safeguards in place; and noted there was no cost to the District to partake in the litigation. Member Burns noted he supported the agreement but shared it would be best to defer to the District's legal counsel before moving forward. Dr. Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, shared it was vetted by the JPA. Member Burns moved approval.

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

Business Services

2.1. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

Dr. Marcia Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented the monthly financial report for cash and budget revision transactions posted through February 28, 2023. The District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$34,446,528; sufficient funds to pay all of the District's financial obligations with internal cash. Member Ryan moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Ryan</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Burns</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>5-0</u>	<i>Burns</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/Pupil Services presented the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. He explained the annual declaration certifies the District's diligent search to recruit a fully prepared teacher for the assignment(s), and that if a suitable fully prepared teacher is not available to the school district, the District will make a reasonable effort to recruit based on the priority requirements stated in the declaration. Member Ryan moved approval.

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

F. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

President El-Hajj noted item F.1.1. was a second reading. Member Burns moved approval. President El-Hajj noted item F.1.2. was a first readings and asked the Board to contact Administration with any questions.

1.1. Second Reading: Revised Board Policies (BP)/Administrative Regulation (AR):

- BP 6120 – Response to Instruction and Intervention
- BP 6142.5 – Environmental Education

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

1.2. First Reading: Revised Board Policies (BP)/Administrative Regulation (AR):

- BP 6142.6 – Visual and Performing Arts Education
- BP 6142.7 – Physical Education

H. EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION

Melanie Hirahara, Santee Teachers Association (STA) President, was present but did not have a report.

I. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Superintendent Baranski shared the Board/Santee City Council Joint Conference Committee was scheduled to meet, but the meeting had to be rescheduled. She shared areas of discussion will include Fanita Ranch, cannabis businesses, and YMCA renovations.

Superintendent Baranski noted she would be joining Member Ryan at the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy trip in Washington, DC, the following week. She noted the conference program included joint sessions with legislators and staffers, a variety of daily sessions, and a visit to Capitol Hill. Superintendent Baranski noted the District had scheduled individual meetings with legislators and shared topics of discussion would include mental health issues, special education (IDEA and Title I) funding, pre-school, and staffing shortages.

Superintendent Baranski shared a draft of District's advertisement for Santee Magazine for feedback. The Board provided feedback and commended the Director of Communications and Community Involvement, Cori Harris, for the design.

President El-Hajj shared she would be joining her grandson in Cooperstown, which interfered with promotions. Board members encouraged her participation on the trip and rearranged promotion representation. President El-Hajj shared concerns with the overgrown weeds at the schools. Bryce Storm, Director of Maintenance and Operations, shared the increase in rain has contributed to the excessive growth and explained staff is in the process of receiving certification to use the approved products that would help eliminate the weeds. Member Burns expressed concerns with the

upcoming lunch on lawn events. Mr. Storm shared staff was working to make sure the schools were ready for the upcoming events. Member Levens-Craig noted there was an area by Cajon Park that had overgrown onto the sidewalk and hinders someone with mobility issues. Member Burns noted the option of hiring additional help in the interim, and suggested contacting CalFire for assistance.

President El-Hajj noted one of the Board's goals was to meet with parents in the community. Upon discussion, the Board noted that because of the proximity to the end of the school year, this would commence in the next school year.

Member Levens-Craig expressed her gratitude towards Ms. Bittle at Sycamore Canyon for the adorable cards sent to her and shared looking forward to her upcoming visit to PRIDE Academy and YALE, and to Ms. Gillian Ryan's class at the end of the month.

Member Burns shared already bringing this to the Superintendent's attention but noted concerns with the illegal parking (i.e., cars parked in the fire lane) during little league games at Rio Seco School fields. Member Burns noted that during a recent game, a player had a medical emergency and the fire department and paramedics vehicles were unable to access the area and the player had to be carried to receive proper medical attention. He stressed the need for the District to make contact with the league to remind/notify their parents of the illegal parking issue and shared concerns with Project SAFE students still being on school grounds during that time.

Member Burns noted for the record, that when the Board receives complaints from staff via email, as eluded too during public comments, that they are unable to respond due to legal reasons.

J. CLOSED SESSION

President El-Hajj announced that the Board would meet in closed session for:

1. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation** (Gov't. Code § 54956.9)
- OAH #: 2023010762
2. **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (Gov't. Code § 54957.6)
Purpose: *Negotiations*
Agency Negotiators: *Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent*
Employee Organizations: *Santee Teachers Association (STA); and
Classified School Employees Association (CSEA)*
3. **Public Employee Performance Evaluation** (Gov't. Code § 54957)
Superintendent

The Board entered closed session at 7:37 p.m.

K. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION


1. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation** (Gov't. Code § 54956.9)
- OAH #: 2023010762

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:23 p.m. and reported a dispute arose regarding a student's special education program. It was moved by Member Levens-Craig, seconded by Member Ryan, to reach a settlement in an anticipated litigation regarding a student's special education program. The agreement involved a release of potential District liability.

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

L. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the regular meeting of April 18, 2023, was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.



Dustin Burns, Clerk



Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary