

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

May 2, 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  
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services  
Dr. Marcia Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent, Business 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**

Students Mason Rodriguez, grade 5 at Carlton Hills; Thesseus Rodriguez grade 3 at Rio Seco; and Evan Rodriguez, grade 1 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. Use of Facilities
- 1.3. Enrollment Report
- 1.4. Claims Against the District

**2. Spotlight on Education: Special Student Recognition**

Dr. Lisa Paisley, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, shared students from the special education program were being honored for overcoming obstacles, and challenges, to make outstanding strides in learning. Dr. Brienne Downing, Director of Special Education, read narratives about each of the students, while President El-Hajj, and Vice President Fox, presented the students with a certificate and a medal.

Cajon Park: Fabian Guevara  
Carlton Hills: Tyler Gonzalez  
Carlton Oaks: Ciant'e Nixon  
Chet F. Harritt: Conner Mills  
Hill Creek: Alexis Svoboda

Pepper Drive: Mariyah Gibbs  
PRIDE Academy: Chance Denstad  
Rio Seco: Theseus Rodriguez  
Sycamore Canyon:  
Evelyn Ellson

The Board commended the students for their hard work. The Board took a short recess for cookies in honor of the students.

### 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 were requests to speak.

Daniel Bickford, representing the Kiwanis Club of Santee, noted the annual Junior Olympics were a huge success and expressed his appreciation to District staff, volunteers, and students for their hard work. Mr. Bickford shared Rio Seco students were the top Olympians again this year.

Karen Sturn, parent, noted her opposition of the *I Am Jazz* books in the school libraries.

### D. 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 Revolving Cash Report
- 2.2. Approval/Ratification of General Services Agreements
- 2.3. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Transactions Charged to District Issued Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)
- 2.4. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequest
- 2.5. Adoption of Resolution No. 2223-18 Requesting Temporary Transfer of Funds
- 2.6. Approval/Ratification of Agreements for Mileage Reimbursement In Lieu of District Transportation
- 2.7. Approval of Interdistrict Attendance Agreements
- 2.8. Adoption of Resolutions Authorizing Specific Designated Agents
- 2.9. Approval of Agreement with DS&C for Municipal Advisory Services
- 2.10. Approval of Agreement with Top Notch Catering, LLC for Summer Meals for ELOP and ASES Programs
- 2.11. Approval/Ratification to Contract for Informal Bids through the CUPCAA Process for Award of Bid #2023-012-001, Gunite Spraying of Slope
- 2.12. Authorization to Solicit Formal Bids for Fresh Produce for Child Nutrition Services Department: Bid #2023-090-001, Fresh Produce
- 2.13. Authorization to Solicit Formal Bids for Grass Fields at Cajon Park, PRIDE Academy, and Sycamore Canyon
- 2.14. Authorization to Solicit Formal Bids for Exterior Paint Projects at Cajon Park, Carlton Oaks, Chet F. Harritt, Hill Creek, PRIDE Academy, District Office, and Educational Resource Center
- 2.15. Approval of 2023-24 Student Accident Insurance
- 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. Ratification of Nonpublic School Master Contract with Stein School for Nonpublic School Services
- 3.3. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Alliant International University, California School of Education for Placement of Practicum Students, Student Teachers and Interns for the Psychology Program or School Counseling Program
- 3.4. Approval of Affiliation Agreement with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Departments of Rehabilitation and Movement Sciences for Placement of Practicum Students in the Clinical Education Program

- 3.5. **Ratification of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with ProCare Therapy due to Cost Increase**
- 4.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 4.2. **Ratification of Internship Affiliation Agreement with San Diego County Superintendent of Schools (SDCOE) – pulled for separate consideration**
- 4.3. **Approval to Purchase Social, Academic, Emotional, Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBRS) Product and Services**

Member Burns asked to pull item 4.2. Ratification of Internship Affiliation Agreement with San Diego County Superintendent of Schools (SDCOE) for separate consideration. Member Burns moved approval of Consent Items, with the exception the of item 4.2.

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

- 4.2. **Ratification of Internship Affiliation Agreement with San Diego County Superintendent of Schools (SDCOE) – pulled for separate consideration**

Member Burns noted being employed by SDCOE and inquired on any financial impact. With no financial impact noted, Member Burns moved approval.

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

**E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

President El-Hajj noted there was a request to speak on item 1.1. Approval to Live Stream Board of Education meetings. She explained the Superintendent would introduce the item and then the public speaker would have an opportunity to address the Board.

**Superintendent**

- 1.1. **Approval to Live Stream Board of Education Meetings**

Superintendent Baranski explained that until the recent pandemic, Board of Education meetings were in person. She noted the increase in public participation when the meetings were hybrid and the Board's ongoing discussion on holding the meetings in-person and hybrid. Superintendent Baranski shared renovations for the room would help support Board and other meetings, professional development, etc., and noted installation of the new equipment had begun during spring break. She explained some of the equipment was on backorder but noted anticipating completion of all renovations by mid-June. Superintendent Baranski recommended the District add a hybrid model (live feed, not recorded) commencing at the July 18 Board meeting with public comment only being available at the in-person meeting.

Tracie Thill, Santee resident, shared her excitement and appreciation for live streaming the Board of Education meetings.

Member Levens-Craig inquired on the format for those watching online and if anyone would have to monitor or allow access to viewing; and if online public comments would be allowed.

President El-Hajj inquired on the Board's preference on public communication. Member Ryan noted supporting the Superintendent's recommendations and suggested adjusting the format, as needed. Member Burns shared based on prior meetings, he did not support online public communication; and stressed concerns with student privacy when students are invited to the meetings. He inquired on the logistics of the placement of the cameras.

Superintendent Baranski stressed the importance of student safety and noted that if a parent did not want their child in camera view, they would not be able to come to the front of the room. She explained the camera would capture anyone standing in the front of the room. Superintendent Baranski noted the cameras would capture the Board and Executive Council areas, but not at close range. Member Burns inquired if the public speakers would be in camera view. Superintendent Baranski inquired about the Board's preference to have another camera for the public speaker and noted the Executive Assistant would have controlling ability of the equipment. Member Burns shared he supported the public speaker be in the view. Member Fox noted he supported Superintendent Baranski's recommendation.

Member Levens-Craig moved approval of the Superintendent's recommendation to add a hybrid model (live feed, not recorded) commencing at the July 18 Board meeting with public comment only being available at the in-person meeting.

Upon discussion, the Board asked Administration to obtain a cost to record and store the meetings.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Levens-Craig</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Ryan</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 March 31, 2023. The District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$35,722,593, sufficient funds to pay all of the District's financial obligations with internal cash. Dr. Hamilton noted the Governor's May Revise assumptions will impact the development of the 2023-24 budget. 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>		

**F. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS**

President El-Hajj noted item F.1.1. and F.1.2. were second readings. Member Burns moved approval. President El-Hajj noted item F.1.3. was a first readings and asked the Board to contact Administration with any questions. Member Levens-Craig suggested language to clarify the allowance of missing two meetings without financial penalty on BP 9250 – Board Bylaw 9250. Upon discussion, the Board approved the addition of the language. Member Ryan moved approval of F.1.1. with the suggested changes, and F.1.2. as presented.

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

- BP 9250 – Revised Board Bylaw 9250 – Renumeration, Reimbursement, and Other Benefits

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

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

<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>		

President El-Hajj invited Briana Buckner to address the Board on the item F.1.3.

Briana Buckner, parent, was present to follow-up on an email she had sent to the Board and school administration regarding an incident at her child's school. She shared that after a presentation, during Check Your Mood week, her student was pulled out of class to be assessed and asked questions that were unfamiliar to her student and without parental consent. Ms. Buckner advocated that parents be required to opt-in, and not opt-out, when their student is being exposed to sensitive subjects.

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

- BP 6020 – Parent Involvement

**G. EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION**

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

**H. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

Superintendent Baranski discussed student surveys and active vs passive consent. She explained Education Code calls that some surveys be opt-out, but noted the District has established different response action based on community needs. Superintendent Baranski shared the Check Your Mood survey is a passive consent and noted the sensitivity of the survey and Ms. Buckner's valid concerns.

Member Ryan noted being in support of the opt-in option for parents. She noted families have different values believes and personally believed it was the parents' right to exclude their student when sensitive subjects are being discussed or presented. Member Ryan expressed her gratitude towards Ms. Buckner for bringing the issue to their attention.

Member Burns shared being in support of the opt-in option and noted the need for all surveys to be reviewed. He stressed the partnership between public education and parents and noted parents should be notified when sensitive matters are discussed or presented to students. Member Burns shared agreeing with Ms. Buckner and explained that it is common practice for the sitting President to respond to concerns on behalf of the Board.

Member Fox noted agreeing with Member Ryan's perspective.

Superintendent Baranski supported the opt-in option but noted it may prevent students that may need participation. She noted the District will move forward with the opt-in option. Superintendent Baranski shared challenges with permission slips in the past and explained the Check Your Mood survey is a way for students to check on their, and their friends, moods.

Member Levens-Craig asked if communication could also be sent to parents via email on an upcoming survey; and suggested parents be informed of the new opt-in option during back-to-school nights to make sure their student is not missing out on anything.

Superintendent Baranski shared Principals were working together to establish a uniform way to communicate to parents. Member Burns suggested looking into an online permission slip to help with submitting and collecting the information. He differentiated an academic field trip versus a District initiative and noted teachers should not be responsible for collecting permission slips for a District initiative.

Member Ryan noted being familiar with the agency offering those programs and knows their intent is not to do anything harmful or not appropriate. But noted the presenters are not from the area and not familiar with the community. Member Ryan noted these agencies already have established agendas for their presentations and suggested the District request a copy to review the content.

Member El-Hajj shared that in her experience as a junior high teacher, the Check Your Mood survey impacted and benefited many students. She expressed her apologies to Ms. Buckner for her experience and the miscommunication.

Superintendent Baranski and Member Ryan provided an update on their Coast2Coast Federal Advocacy trip to Washington, DC. Superintendent Baranski shared appreciation to Member Ryan for scheduling individual meetings with the Legislatures. She noted some districts were unable to advocate for their districts because no meetings were scheduled and/or were cancelled. Superintendent Baranski noted meeting with four (4) staffers and Congressman Darrell Issa had stopped by during their visit. Member Ryan noted that during past visits from the San Diego Delegation, they were able to meet with all the Legislatures. She noted it is more common to meet with their staffers. Member Ryan shared all their meetings were very productive and a great opportunity to discuss local needs. She suggested the Board travel to Washington, D.C.

Superintendent Baranski noted visiting the renovated YMCA facility with President El-Hajj, Member Ryan, and Member Fox. She explained the YMCA changes include a no public nudity; and addition of individual stalls in the locker rooms. Superintendent Baranski explained that students on field trips would not be using the locker rooms, except when a large group of students require use of restrooms, and the single stalls are occupied. In this case, locker rooms would be cleared, and District staff would accompany the students. Member Ryan noted the shower curtains have been replaced with shower doors. Member Burns noted he was unable to attend but would work with the Superintendent's office to schedule a visit. President El-Hajj noted feeling comfortable with the renovations. Superintendent Baranski noted an update would be sent to parents with the YMCA's policy. President El-Hajj suggested a legislative goal to forbid public nudity in the presence of minors in public places.

Superintendent Baranski shared the ability of the District's current library system to notify parents of the books their student checkouts from the library and displayed a sample copy of the email that is generated by the system. She noted libraries are closing for the year and suggested this feature be activated during the 2023-24 school year. Member Burns expressed his gratitude towards Administration for the information.

Member Levens-Craig expressed his appreciation to the Bryce Storm, Director of Maintenance & Operations, and his team for removing the weeds that obstructed the sidewalk by Cajon Park. Member Levens-Craig noted parking issues continued at the little league fields. Superintendent Baranski noted speaking to the Fire Marshall. She shared the issue is escalating and noted learning of a situation that happened on Saturday where emergency vehicles were unable to enter to render help.

Member Levens-Craig inquired on the Board's participation during staff appreciation weeks and shared enjoying her visit to Gillian Ryan's classroom. She shared enjoying the Chamber of Commerce Heroes Celebration to celebrate the Teacher of the Year.

Member Burns asked that communication be sent to the Maintenance Department on their behalf to express their appreciation for removing the weeds at the sites. He noted the Lunch on the Lawns are well attended and shared his excitement to see the families back on the campuses. Member Burns inquired how teachers felt about holding Open House in conjunction with Lunch on the Lawn. He explained teachers were usually visiting with families in the past. Member Burns attended the Communication Committee meeting and expressed his appreciation to Cori Harris, Director of Communications and Community Engagement, for her presentation on the District and school websites. He noted Ms. Harris has done a lot of work to make sure the websites look professional and user-friendly and shared being surprised that the District homepage had been visited 182,000 times in the last six (6) months.

Member Burns noted the District did its due diligence in being available to answer questions regarding lead testing results from Carlton Hills. He noted there was no one in attendance, which proved the District is doing a great job in communicating. Member Burns expressed appreciation

to Dr. Marcia Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; Bryce Storm, Director of Maintenance & Operations; and Tim Dobbins, Carlton Hills Principal, for being in attendance.

**I. CLOSED SESSION**

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

1. **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)*
2. **Public Employee Performance Evaluation** (Gov't. Code § 54957)  
*Superintendent*

The Board entered closed session at 7:48 p.m.

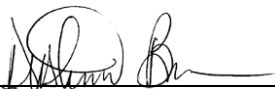
**J. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

1. **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)*
2. **Public Employee Performance Evaluation** (Gov't. Code § 54957)  
*Superintendent*

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:45 p.m. and reported no action was taken.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the regular meeting of May 2, 2023, was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

  
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Dustin Burns, Clerk

  
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Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary