

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

May 5, 2020
MINUTES

Via Video Conferencing

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Burns called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members present:

Dustin Burns, President
Barbara Ryan, Vice President
Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk
Dianne El-Hajj, Member
Ken Fox, 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 Burns recited the District Mission.

3. Approval of Agenda

President Burns presented the agenda for approval. Member Fox moved approval.

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

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

1.1. Developer Fees and Collection Report

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Burns invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. He explained that given the current circumstances with COVID-19, the public was given the opportunity so submit comments online or by phone prior to the meeting. Member Burns noted there was one public comment pertaining to an agenda item and would be addressed during at the time.

D. CONSENT ITEMS

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

Superintendent

1.1. Approval of Minutes

2.1. Approval/Ratification of Travel Requests

2.2. Approval/Ratification of Expenditure Transactions Charged to District Issued Purchasing Cards (P-Cards)

2.3. Adoption of Resolution No. 1920-27 Requesting Temporary Transfer of Funds

2.4. Approval of Interdistrict Attendance Agreements

- 2.5. **Adoption of Resolutions Authorizing Specific Designated Agents**
- 2.6. **Adoption of Resolution 1920-33 Designating the Assistant Superintendent, Business Services to be the District's Agent Authorized to Provide Assurances and Agreements Necessary to Apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grants through the California Office of Emergency Services**
- 2.7. **Adoption of Resolution 1920-34 Specifically Designating Public Works Project(s) of School Facilities as an Essential Critical Infrastructure Sector**
- 3.1. **Personnel, Regular**
- 3.2. **Approval to Submit Department of Defense Military Connected Local Educational Agencies for Academic and Support Programs**

Member Ryan moved approval of consent items.

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

F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

- 1.1. **Adoption of Resolution No. 1920-26, Grading During Emergency School Closures**
Superintendent Baranski shared that in March, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), issued an executive order directing all individuals to stay home until further notice. Santee School District closed its schools on March 16, 2020. She explained that during the COVID-19 school closure and the implementation of distance learning, adoption of this resolution, incorporates grading alternatives as options for use during the school closures period of March 16 – June 10 (Trimester 3).

Member El-Hajj shared struggling with supporting the item because of the message it sends that school is out for the year. She shared understanding the philosophy around the item and reading other material to learn more about it. President Burns explained that, for him, the resolution meant equity (i.e., inequity of support at home, etc.) Member Ryan agreed with Member El-Hajj and shared it may be a disservice for the students.

Member Fox moved approval.

<i>Motion:</i>	<u>Fox</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Nay</u>
<i>Second:</i>	<u>Levens-Craig</u>	<i>Ryan</i>	<u>Nay</u>	<i>Fox</i>	<u>Aye</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>3-2</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

Business Services

- 2.1. **Monthly Financial Report**
Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, reported the monthly financial report was for cash and budget revision transactions posted through March 31, 2020; and shared the District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$12.4 million sufficient to pay all of the District's financial obligations for the fiscal year.

Mr. Christensen noted the budget revisions continued to show an operating deficit in the unrestricted general fund and declining reserve percentages over the next two years. He noted this report was based on second interim report assumptions, which occurred before COVID-19; and was anxiously awaiting the May revise.

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

- 2.2. **Approval of Final Guaranteed Maximum Price and Authorization to Proceed with Revised Scope of Work for Chet F. Harritt Building Project Under Lease-Leaseback Agreement with Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC**

- 2.3. **Approval of Final Guaranteed Maximum Price and Authorization to Proceed with Established Scope of Work for PRIDE Academy Building Project Under Lease-Leaseback Agreement with Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC**

- 2.4. **Approval of Final Guaranteed Maximum Price and Authorization to Proceed with Established Scope of Work for Sycamore Canyon Building Project Under Lease-Leaseback Agreement with Balfour Beatty Construction, LLC**

Karl Christensen, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, shared Items F.2.2., F.2.3., and F.2.4., were all related to approval of the maximum guaranteed price for construction at Chet F. Harritt, PRIDE Academy, and Sycamore Canyon Schools.

Mr. Christensen discussed a few modifications and noted Michelle Reiner, with Balfour Beatty Construction, and Debra Vaughn-Cleff with StudioWC were present to answer any questions. He shared construction would begin at Chet F. Harritt and Sycamore Canyon on May 18; and at PRIDE Academy on May 26. Estimated occupancy, for Chet F. Harritt is July 2021; and April 2021 for PRIDE Academy and Sycamore Canyon.

Member El-Hajj inquired if the District had the funds for the projects; and noted the estimate was lower than previously presented. Mr. Christensen confirmed the District had the funds for the projects; and shared the overall estimate was lower. Member El-Hajj asked if Project SAFE funds were still being considered for the portables at Chet F. Harritt. Mr. Christensen explained that because there was costs savings on the construction projects, and Santee School site selling for more than expected, Project SAFE funds would not be used for the portables.

President Burns asked if the door to the office could be changed to a double-glass door or doors with windows. He explained that with the current design, people inside could not see who was on the other side of door.

The Board expressed their appreciation for Michelle Reiner and Debra Vaughn-Cleff for their hard work in always keeping the District's best interest in mind. Ms. Reiner expressed her gratitude for being allowed to finish the last three projects; and Ms. Vaughn-Cleff shared her excitement to work on the projects. Member Levens-Craig moved approval.

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

- 2.5. **Selection of Commissioning Agent for Capital Improvement Program Projects**

Mr. Christensen shared the District would be constructing three new buildings as part of its Capital Improvement Program. He explained building codes require the District to procure the services of a qualified commissioning agent to analyze and confirm proper settings for new HVAC systems in new buildings over 10,000 square feet. Mr. Christensen noted this applied to Chet F. Harritt's construction only. He explained Administration recommended procuring these services for all three projects. Member Levens-Craig moved approval.

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

2.6. Approval of Ninyo & Moore for Geotechnical, Special Inspection, and Materials Testing Services for Building Projects at Chet F. Harritt, PRIDE Academy And Sycamore Canyon

Mr. Christensen explained the Division of State Architect (DSA) reviews and approves all school construction projects and part of the construction process requires geotechnical, special inspection and materials testing. He shared Administration asked for the approval of Ninyo & Moore to conduct this testing. Member El-Hajj moved approval.

Motion: El-Hajj **Burns** Aye **El-Hajj** Aye
Second: Ryan **Ryan** Aye **Fox** Aye
Vote: 5-0 **Levens-Craig** Aye

2.7. Additional General Fund Budget Reductions for 2020-21

Member Burns shared there was one public comment relating to Item 2.7. He explained he would allow Administration to present the item, then ask Superintendent Baranski to read the comment for the record.

Superintendent Baranski noted that at the March 17 meeting, the Board of Education enacted \$1.1 million of on-going reductions and \$850,000 of one-time reductions to the General Fund to reduce the anticipated structural deficit for 2020-21, in response to the Governor's January budget proposal in which a COLA increase was proposed for the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for 2020-21. She shared this condition signals enactment of a zero or negative COLA for the LCFF.

Mr. Christensen explained that since March, the condition and outlook for the State's budget has substantially worsened as restrictions on business and commerce were enacted to curtail the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). He explained that should these conditions materialize, they will substantially increase the District's structural deficit and jeopardize the ability to meet the three percent (3%) minimum reserved requirement in the third year of the multi-year projection for the Adopted Budget. Mr. Christensen shared a second set of recommended General Fund expenditure reductions for enactment.

Action	Category	Amount		Year Invoked	LCFF
		One-Time	On-Going		
Reduce Technology Reserve Transfer to 50% of Normal	Protection	0	90,000	2020-21	Supplemental
Reduce Deferred Maintenance Transfer/RRMA to the Minimum Allowed	Places	0	19,000	2020-21	Base
Reduce Weekly Release Time for Hill Creek Teachers to 50% of 2019-20 Budget	Programs	0	18,573	2020-21	Supplemental
Eliminate Algebra 1 Zero Period	Programs	0	35,062	2020-21	Base
Eliminate Interim Comprehensive Assessment (ICA) Stipends	Programs	0	91,493	2020-21	Supplemental
Eliminate Principal Coaching Contract with SDCOE	Programs	0	25,000	2020-21	Supplemental
Suspend Summer Bridge Program	Programs	53,764	0	2020-21	Supplemental
Eliminate 2 Admin Intern Positions	People	0	175,157	2020-21	Base
Reduce Work Year for 3 ERC Directors	People	0	24,693	2020-21	Base
Total All:		53,764	478,979		

Superintendent read the following public comment:

My Name is Luke Towne and I teach 8th grade Mathematics at Carlton Oaks. I would like to urge the board to not eliminate the "Algebra 1" program; also known as "Integrated Math-1", for next year. As a K-8 district our junior high students have limited opportunity for advancing their level of education. The Integrated-1 class is

one of the few ways they can. For those students who successfully complete the IM-1 class that is presently offered in the Santee School District, they are able to begin 9th grade in the Integrated-2 course. This puts them on track to reach the Calculus AB course by their Senior year. Universities continue to use this Calculus course as a standard to distinguish student applicants for admissions. Without the Integrated-1 course being offered to 8th graders, this achievement becomes extremely difficult. I challenge you to continue to meet the goal you set out for Educational Achievement in this district; to, "Assure the highest level of educational achievement for all students." Cutting this program would neglect this goal; limiting the educational level that students can achieve in the Santee School District. Of course, those students could always choose from any of the other east county school districts to achieve their highest level of mathematical education. Unfortunately, they wouldn't be able choose the Santee School District. We would be the only district to not offer them this opportunity. Please consider this as you examine areas for budget reduction. Thank you for your time.

The Board expressed their displeasure in making budget reduction decisions. Member El-Hajj asked for additional information on the Algebra I class (i.e., enrollment, pathway, etc.). Member Ryan shared she couldn't support the elimination of the Algebra I class as it was a disservice to the students. She asked if the Board would consider voting for that item separately. Member Levens-Craig explained not supporting the reductions, but knowing they were necessary. She strongly urged Administration not to neglect routine building maintenance of the facilities. Member Fox noted his concerns and dislike of budget reductions. President Burns shared he didn't like any of the reductions; as they would all impact students. He explained he based his decision on equity for all students and used the Algebra I class as an example of funds only affecting a small number of students. President Burns shared there could be ways of possibly making this course available at another school using different funding.

President Burns moved approval of the elimination of the Algebra I class.

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

Member Fox moved approval of the remaining reductions.

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

F. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

President Burns noted items F.1.1, and F.1.2., were second readings; and shared items F.1.3. and F.1.4., were first readings and asked Board members to contact Administration if there were any questions and/or concerns.

- 1.1. Second Reading: Revised Board Policy 3513.3, Tobacco-Free Schools
- 1.2. Second Reading: New Board Policy 3514, Environmental Safety
- 1.3. First Reading: New Board Policy 3515.4, Recovery for Property Loss or Damage
- 1.4. First Reading: Revised Board Policy 3514.1, Hazardous Substances

Member Ryan moved approval of items F.1.1. and F.1.2.

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

G. EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION

Melanie Hirahara, STA President, shared the same sentiments on the budget reductions and expressed her gratitude toward Superintendent Baranski for the communication. Ms. Hirahara noted grading is a sticky situation and shared agreeing with Members El-Hajj and Ryan. She shared the lack of equity with the students' current home situation made it difficult to grade.

H. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Superintendent Baranski shared with the suspension of upcoming events, Administration had been working on ideas for employee and student recognitions. She asked if the Board was in favor of creating a scripted video for staff. Member El-Hajj agreed to help with the script.

President Burns shared ideas to celebrate the special student recognition and 8th grade academic achievement students. Superintendent Baranski asked to move the presentation of the special student recognition to a later date to allow for additional planning. She shared that in lieu of academic achievement recognition, the District would be honoring academic student leaders from each site at the June 2nd meeting.

Superintendent Baranski shared ideas on celebrating the PTA Presidents and Salute to Excellence honorees. She proposed each honoree receive a lawn sign noting their recognition. Administration would deliver the signs to the honorees' homes and take pictures. A compilation of the pictures would be made into a video.

Superintendent Baranski shared Mr. Christensen is working with the architects on an informational construction videos to send to the PRIDE Academy and Sycamore Canyon communities; and inquired on adding a message from the Board to the video. Upon discussion, the Board agreed to include a message from the Board President and the school Principal.

Superintendent Baranski shared being in the process of establishing a promotion Board advisory committee that will include site administration, teachers, students, and parents.

Member Fox shared, he and Superintendent Baranski, are part of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force. He explained the committee is tasked with putting plans and procedures in place for when business open.

Member Levens-Craig noted her appreciation of the teachers for all their hard work; and hearing stories of teachers going above and beyond to make sure all their students have the resources to learn. Member Levens-Craig shared being proud to be part of this District. She expressed her gratitude towards the San Diego Book project for the donation of a few pallet of reading books. Member Levens-Craig shared the books are at the ERC are available for students and parents when they pick up enrichment packets.

President Burns shared his personal experience as a parent and distant learning; and noted the importance of working as a team with the teacher. He discussed his concerns for his son's academics and the assistance, and noted a lot of students will need help in the fall.

K. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the regular meeting of May 5, 2020 was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk



Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary