

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

July 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 7:02 p.m.

Members present:

Barbara Ryan, President
Elana Levens-Craig, Vice President (joined virtually)
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

Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant, led members, staff, and audience, in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

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

B. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent's Report

1.1. Developer Fees and Collection Report

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 or attend the meeting in-person. There were 22 online public comments and seven (7) in-person speakers.

<i>Note: Only comments that include all required information (first and last name, phone number, and email address) are posted for public view.</i>			
ID	Name	Representing	Public Comment
1	Adam Johnson	Parent of student	When will details be released about the independent study program required by AB 130 passed recently for the 2021-22 school year? It sounds like different requirements than the

			alternative home school program offered.
2	Farin Jervis	Santee students	We the parents of the santee school district want to be heard. Unmask our children!! Please do not do this to them emotionally again. Enough is enough! We have been mask free for over a month now. Why go backwards?? My child does NOT want to return if masks are going to be mandated. Please give the parents the option, we know what's best for our own children.
3	Stephanie Barker	Myself and my two children at Carlton Oaks.	Please continue to follow the guidance of the County Health Department and do NOT remove masks for in person education. Kids under the age of 12 cannot yet be vaccinated. Masks clearly helped keep us safe last year and the practice should be continued until everyone who can be vaccinated, is. Thank you.
4	Rob Fox	Myself and my children	<p>I am submitting this comment in the hopes of persuading the Board to use common sense and follow actual science and not the politically influenced pseudoscience when it comes to determining whether to recommend masks for our children for this upcoming school year. The recent recommendation by both the State of California and the American Academy of Pediatrics, flies in the face established data that shows children, regardless of vaccination status, are at a near zero risk for infection, transmission or death due to COVID-19. In fact, many studies have shown that children often act as a "transmission brake" when it comes to their ability to infect others.</p> <p>Furthermore, there have been multiple studies published showing that masking DOES NOT work. A very recent study showed that children are at an increased risk to physiological harm due to breathing in higher levels of CO2, our respiratory metabolic waste product, while wearing a mask for extended periods during the school day.</p> <p>Over the course of the last several months, our children have taken vacations, they've sat in crowded restaurants, gone to movies and amusement parks, played at parks and had sleepovers. Everything kids should do and with no adverse actions.</p> <p>Our kids have been taken on a mental and emotional roller coaster this past year and a half. To subject them to any further attempts at politically motivated, unscientific interventions that adversely affects their health is tantamount to child abuse when all the hard data shows that they are not at risk.</p> <p>I implore you to take a stand for our children's health and make it a parent's choice on whether to have our children wear masks or not.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
5	Jessica Bosch	Jessica Bosch	District should follow the CDC, State and county guidelines for masking and social distancing. As children 5-12 cannot be vaccinated, masks should be worn inside the classroom. It is important that children are not getting and spreading the highly contagious delta variant. We should err on the side of caution, following the science not politics.
6	Lynda Spendlove	Parent and educator	Masks are hurting younger students. Bi have noticed a strong decline in students and my children's ability to recognize facial cues and emotional cues. This is hurting their emotional growth and emotional attachment. Also language development is behind. Since kids cannot see mouths moving they are having trouble pronouncing words correctly.
9	Kim Acino-Romero	Carlton Oaks School & all the children in the Santee School district.	My 7 year old does not know what "normal" school is. His kindergarten year was cut in half and 1st grade year was a joke as well. We are doing our children a disservice at this point with the education system that is currently in place and enough is enough. We can go to the movies, we can go to Costco, target, the mall etc (the list goes on and on) without mask, yet our children whom are

			<p>the least effected have to sit in a classroom with a mask on there beautiful faces...Mask are NOT helping protect our children or the teachers for that matter they are not being worn properly and harboring more bacteria then we know. SHOW us the Science, oh wait there is none...it's not about the science, it's about control. Wake up people!! Which one of you are going to stand-up and protect our children. Our taxes pay your salaries! We as parents will not backdown, we are ready to fight for what's right and STOP this child abuse! Again, I want to ask, which one of you is going to stand with us and not against us. Saying and/or doing nothing is part of the abuse. We are asking you to do what's right, let our children breathe freely and experience school they way you and I did. Don't steal that from them. Let stand together and make things right in our district.</p>
10	Sara Corbett	Sara & Martin Corbett	<p>What are the steps for the COVID-19 vaccine to become mandatory in the district? For example, dose it have to be FDA approved first? In addition, what are the chances that it will happen and will the district enforce it?</p> <p>As a comment: My husband and I have 2 daughters attending Chet F. Harritt going into grades 5th & 6th. We are fully prepared to pull them out of public school if this Vaccine becomes mandatory and is enforced by the district.</p>
12	Sarah Kahler	My children	<p>I hope that masks will be voluntary for students and staff this coming school year. I know that the state is making them required but that districts have some say in how they manage students who don't wear them. Right now the state is open and most people do not wear them. People can go to baseball games and amusement parks with tens of thousands of people, and yet a class of 24 students requires them. Making students and teachers wear masks does get in the way of learning. It makes it difficult to communicate and to hear one another. I feel like our students have gone through enough changes over the past year and a half and we need to bring back normalcy. While I understand that some people feel safer in a mask, making masks optional and available for those who want them should be the way to go. Last year my sons did wear them in school and I was happy that the district was able to open up much sooner than many other districts, but another year behind masks it too much to ask of the teacher and kids.</p>
13	Nicole Cavanaugh	Parent	<p>There should be no question if these kids need to wear masks this upcoming school year, because if we learned anything from all the work that was done last year, is that they work. These kids aren't safe, and what's keeping them safe? The masks. And if it becomes an optional situation none of them are going to wear their masks and the ones that do will be bullied.</p>
14	Krista Hopkins	My child, Colton Hopkins	<p>As a parent to a future 2nd grader who's experienced his first couple years of school during COVID, I'm writing in regards to my child coming back to school in the fall that is potentially requiring masks to be worn. My sons first years of school have been damaging not only to his education but to his personal qualities as COVID played a big part in his education and having to wear a mask at school. While wearing a mask, a young child cannot read lips as his teacher is teaching him to read, write, and speak. Wearing a mask, he cannot see the smiles (or in this case scared faces) of his peers as they don't understand what's going on either and are having a hard time learning or making friends. As we entered into the summer of 2021 it was a relief that the CA mask mandate was released and our children were able to run and play sports outside, be allowed to go to amusement parks, go to church, and just be a regular kid without having to wear a face covering that impacts</p>

			their breathing and facial emotions. If our school board chooses to require students to wear masks, I am prepared to pull my child from this school district as it is not safe and not healthy!
15	Aaron Starns	Peyton & Liam Starns	Please discuss possible loopholes for the State's mask requirement.
16	Gina Davis	Children	What are the Santee School districts intentions on mask policy for fall and how will families wanting an optional mask policy be represented? With teachers, staff and other adults all having had the opportunity to be fully vaccinated, the perceived risk of children spreading the virus to adults has been removed. Therefore, there is no public health justification for forcing children to wear masks in school. Alpine School District has already voted for an optional mask policy this fall and I request Santee SD also give parents a right to choose what is in the best interest of their child.
17	Elena Finley	Children	Children of the Santee school district should have the option to wear masks or not. Private schools such as foothills Christian in lakeside has operated mask optional last school year and alpine school district recently announced they would operate mask optional. Where is the health justification on enforcing these mask rules on our children given that every staff member and adult has been given the opportunity to fully vaccinate and the Covid numbers are low. How will the district represent the parents/children that want masks to be optional?
18	Robert Romero	All students in the Santee School District Sent from my iPhone	I'm writing this email on behalf of all the kids that are attending the Santee School District for this next year and am confused at the idea of them having to wear masks!!! Why, why, why, when you can go pretty much anywhere now and not have to wear a mask, but we are making kids wear masks in school is mind boggling to me!! There is zero science, zero that says a child is going to die from this!!! I'm disgusted by the thought of my 7 year old that his kindergarten and 1st grade years were taken away from him and what a waste of two years of learning it was!! We want our kids to learn and grow and if the schools that we pay taxes for don't care about our kids, we will fight and continue to fight for them!! Stand up for our kids! If you don't, we know where you stand, and it's not for our kids!! Start standing up for them and Let Them Breathe!!!!
19	Ryan Macys	My nieces, fourth and second grade.	Please just use common sense regarding masks. The safety of all is more important than the discomfort of a few. Most elementary aged kids cannot be vaccinated yet, do not remove masks indoors for all. Thank you.
22	Alexandria Small	The children	I am asking what the Santee School district is doing to represent the families who want an optional mask wearing policy for our children. Since the school staff have all had the opportunity to get fully vaccinated and the risk of children giving the virus to adults is no longer. There should be no reason to make our children wear a mask in school as there is no justification.

Coral Virili, Carlton Hill parent, expressed her opposition of requiring students to wear masks inside the classroom.

Rob Vigil, parent, expressed his opposition of requiring students to wear masks, and the instruction of Critical Race Theory (CRT), in the classroom.

Adam Padilla, representing students, expressed his opposition of requiring students to wear masks inside the classroom.

Shannon Hamann, representing students, expressed her opposition of requiring students to wear masks inside the classroom.

Stephanie Melaney, Rio Seco grandparent, expressed her opposition of requiring students to wear masks.

Dr. Mark Brouker, representing Santee students, expressed his appreciation to the Board for listening to all the speakers, inquired on data points being used to lift the mask mandate, and shared his opposition of requiring students to wear masks inside the classroom.

Amy Reichert, representing “Re-Open San Diego” and “Let Them Breathe”, expressed her opposition of requiring students to wear masks inside the classroom.

Speakers discussed students’ mental well-being, the need for normalcy, etc., asked the Board to “let the students breathe,” “follow the science,” and allow parents the choice of whether their student(s) wears a mask in the classroom.

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
- 2.4. Approval/Ratification of Revolving Cash Report
- 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. Authorization to Sell/Dispose of Surplus Items
- 2.10. Approval of Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report Required by the Williams Settlement
- 3.1. Approval of the 2021-22 Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS) Application for Funding
- 3.2. Approval/Ratification of Nonpublic School Master Contract with Winston School for Nonpublic School Services
- 3.3. Approval of Individual Service Agreement with Asestine School for Nonpublic School Services
- 3.4. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with New Haven Youth Services for Therapeutic Behavioral Services
- 3.5. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with SPOT Kids Therapy for Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Psycho-Educational Assessments
- 3.6. Approval of Nonpublic School Master Contract with The Institute for Effective Education Nonpublic School Services
- 3.7. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Vista Hill Learning Assistance Center
- 3.8. Approval of Individual Service Agreement with Fred Finch Center for Nonpublic School Services
- 4.1. Personnel, Regular
- 4.2. Approval of Changes to the 2021-2022 District School Calendar
- 4.3. Ratification of Short-Term Service Agreements

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>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>		

E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

1.1. 2021-22 School Year Update

Superintendent Baranski provided an update on the 2021-22 school year public health guidance for K-12 schools, published by the California Department of Public Health on July 12, 2021, that outlined safety measures including current mask mandates while indoors, physical distancing, and ventilation recommendations.

Superintendent Baranski noted priority is to have as many students as possible attending in-person instruction. She shared discussing these guidelines with neighboring district Superintendents and all were in concurrence with the information being presented. Superintendent Baranski noted the item was being presented as an information only, and any action was at the Boards' discretion. She clarified the presentation content was written by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and were not her words and/or opinion. Superintendent Baranski explained there was a misconception on the District's "local control" and noted initial guidance was that if a child came to school without a mask, they must leave the school. That guidance was retracted as CDPH learned they do not have the local authority to decide what a school district does if a child doesn't want to bring a mask to school. The following day, CDPH's guidance was that schools must decide or create local protocols on how enforce the mask requirements if a student comes to school without a mask; and offering an independence study program for students who are not on campus because they will not wear a mask. Superintendent Baranski noted next steps included parent communication to relay the current guidance; with frequent updates, if there were changes to the guidance. She noted CDPH will not make any additional changes to the guidance until November 1. Superintendent Baranski shared the importance of site administration being part of this discussion when they return from summer break. The SAFE AT SCHOOL Reopening Plan was also in the process of being updated with the new guidance.

Member Fox inquired on an appeal process. Superintendent Baranski noted the appeal process would entail the District, parents and/or community members writing a letter to CDPH asking for variances. She shared several San Diego school districts had written to CDPH asking for variances and were denied.

Member Burns noted some of the public comments resonated with him; as he is also a parent in the District and lifetime resident of Santee, attending Cajon Park and Santana High. Member Burns noted the importance to confirm with CDPH that masks in the classrooms are a requirement; Cal/OSHA and the impacts to employees; and final authority on the guidance. Member Burns noted it was his understanding that the Boards of Education do not have any authority on this matter. He noted Alpine Union School District had stated masks would be "optional" but only if allowed. Superintendent Baranski noted that in a discussion with other Superintendents and the San Diego Public Health Officials, the prior day, CDPH is requiring masks indoor for students on school campuses. The "local control" is only what a school district does to manage and/or support a child that does not want to bring a mask to school.


Member El-Hajj shared not liking wearing a mask and explained that as an elected body, you swear to uphold the law. She mentioned the District would inquire on local authority, if any, to make sure all students are safe. Member El-Hajj noted that as much as she dislikes wearing a mask, she also has the responsibility to respect those who chose to wear them. She shared the District will work as hard as possible to meet the needs of all students, by following the law.


Member Levens-Craig shared she was looking forward to hearing if the schools are required to follow the guidance and clarification on local control.

Member Burns noted a lot of misinformation in the community, and on social media, and encouraged parents and community members to contact the school district for information and/or clarification.


CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH)
SCHOOL INDUSTRY GUIDANCE

Santee School District
Board of Education Meeting
July 20, 2021




PRIORITY: IN PERSON INSTRUCTION 

- Masks **required** indoors for students and staff when students are present
- Masks not required outdoors
- No minimum physical distancing requirements
- Maintain ventilation, frequent handwashing, daily cleaning, etc.

PRIORITY: IN PERSON INSTRUCTION 

Masks:

- CDPH chose universal masking while indoors in lieu of social distancing requirements (CDC allowance)
- Schools must provide a face covering to students who forget to bring one
- Medical exemptions remain the same

PRIORITY: IN PERSON INSTRUCTION 

District/Schools must also:

- Implement local protocols to enforce the mask requirements
- Offer independent study for students who are excluded from campus because they will not wear a mask

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 May 31, 2021; and shared the District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$14.1 million sufficient to pay all of the District's financial obligations for the fiscal year. He noted the budget revisions transactions had not changed from when the estimated actuals were presented in the adopted budget, but reserve percentages were outdated because the State's adopted budget differed, and did not include recent negotiated salary increases. Mr. Christensen noted a 45-day Budget update would be presented at the August 3 meeting.

<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>		

Educational Services

3.1. Approval of Outdoor Education Program Agreements with the San Diego County Office of Education

Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented approval of the Outdoor Education Program agreements for approval. Member Burns explained being employed by the San Diego County Office of Education and having a conflict of interest with the item. He left the dais and abstained from the vote. 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>El-Hajj</u>	<i>Levens-Craig</i>	<u>Aye</u>	<i>Burns</i>	<u>Abstained</u>
<i>Vote:</i>	<u>4-1</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i>	<u>Aye</u>		

Human Resource/Pupil Services

4.1. Ratification of Employer-Employee Collective Bargaining Tentative Agreement Between Santee School District and California School Employees Association and its Chapter #557 (CSEA)

Tim Larson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources/Pupil Services, presented the Employer-Employee Collective Bargaining Tentative Agreement between Santee School District and California School Employees Association and its Chapter #557 (CSEA) for ratification. He shared a tentative agreement, for the 2019-2020 school year, concerning the following Articles had been reached:

- Contract Article Number Changes
- Article 2, Recognition
- Article 4, Association Rights
- Article 5, Orientation
- Article 6, Organizational Security
- Article 9, Procedure for Evaluation
- Article 10, Safety
- Article 11, Hours
- Article 12, Transportation Procedures
- Article 13, Layoff, Employment, Involuntary Reduction in Hours, and the Impacts and Effects of Such Matters
- Article 16, Transfers
- Article 17, Postings and Filling Open Positions
- Article 19, Compensation
- Article 20, Health and Welfare Benefits
- Article 24, Term

CSEA membership ratified the tentative agreement on July 1, 2021. Mr. Larson noted the fiscal impact of Article 19, Compensation, were as follows:

- 2.00% increase to the 2020-2021 salary schedule effective July 1, 2020
- 2.00% off-schedule increase for 2020-2021 effective July 1, 2020 to be paid in one lump sum
- 2.00% increase to the 2021-2022 salary schedule effective July 1, 2021

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>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>	

4.2. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Rady Children’s Hospital – San Diego, Children’s Outpatient Psychiatry

President Ryan shared a conflict with the item and abstained from the vote. Member Burns moved approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Rady Children’s Hospital – San Diego, Children’s Outpatient Psychiatry for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

<i>Motion:</i> <u>Burns</u>	<i>Ryan</i> <u>Abstained</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>4-1</u>	<i>El-Hajj</i> <u>Aye</u>	

F. BOARD POLICIES AND BYLAWS

President Ryan explained item F.1.1. were second readings of Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools (BP 1400); and District-Sponsored Social Media (BP 1114). She noted item F.1.2. were first readings of Joint Use Agreements (formerly known as Improvements to District Facilities and Maintenance) (BP 1400); Comprehensive Plans (BP 0400); and Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities (BP0410), and encouraged the Board to review and discuss any questions with administration.

1.1. Second Readings of Board Policies (BP):

- BP 1400 – Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools
- BP 1114 – District-Sponsored Social Media

1.2. First Readings of Board Bylaws (BB):

- BP 1330.1 – Joint Use Agreements (formerly known as Improvements to District Facilities and Maintenance)
- BP 0400 – Comprehensive Plans
- BP 0410 – Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities

Member El-Hajj moved approval of Second Readings: Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools (BP 1400); and District-Sponsored Social media (BP 1114).

<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>	

H. EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION

There was no communication.

I. BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

Superintendent Baranski shared the enrollment projects were similar to last year and enrollment was being monitored for staffing purposes. She explained AB 130: Independent Study was recently passed legislation and asked Dr. Stephanie Pierce, Assistant Superintendent, to provide an update on how the District will be adhering to these requirements through the Home School

Program. Dr. Pierce explained that as part of the Budget Trailer Bill AB130, changes were made to the Independent Study Law for the 2021-22 school year. These changes include:

1. Mandate to offer Independent Study for school year 2021-22 only.
2. Notification of this option on the school district website.
3. Independent study student work must be aligned to state standards and meet the instructional minutes or time value of in-person instruction.
4. Synchronous instruction once daily for grades K-3 (no minimum instructional minutes)
5. Live interaction for grades 4-8 grade and one synchronous session per week. Live interaction is defined as a check in with the teacher via online learning platform, telephonic or in-person.
6. Tiered reengagement strategy if a student misses more than 2 days a week, which includes an absences notification.
7. Students generate attendance by meeting the daily requirements of work completion.
8. Signed learning agreement or master agreement by parent and student with the requirements. Learning agreement is signed as a result of a pupil-parent-educator conference.
9. Plan to transition students to in-person within 5 days as requested by family. In our district it would mean at a school with an opening for the student's grade level. We would do our best to place the child at their home school or requested school if possible.

Dr. Pierce noted the requirements of live interaction, synchronous learning, tiered reengagement, and transition plan are exempt for students engaging in independent study in a school year for less than 15 days for the entire year. This would include independent study agreements for students going away for a five-day vacation, bereavement, etc. She noted the need to monitor that they do not exceed 15 days for the school year.

Superintendent Baranski explained inquiries from parents and grandparents on Critical Race Theory (CRT) began when two San Diego school districts discussed adding this content to their curriculum. She explained that as an elementary school district, we do not have a critical race curriculum nor has the District ever considered this type of curriculum; and noted this context is usually discussed at the high school level or above. Superintendent Baranski noted the District's current History/Social Science curriculum was adopted in 2019 and aligns to the State's standards. She noted Critical Race Theory is not content on the State's standards, nor part of the District's current curriculum, nor is it being recommended for adoption. Superintendent Baranski noted the District did purchase a social and emotional curriculum, which supports students with empathy, awareness, and how they deal with themselves and others.

Member Fox asked if assessments were conducted during summer school to gage the program's success. Dr. Pierce noted teachers conducted formative pre- and post-assessments, which showed growth. She shared teachers thought it was very beneficial for students. Member Fox inquired on the availability of physical education and electives for 8th grade students. Dr. Pierce confirmed there would be physical education and electives for 8th grade students.

Member El-Hajj expressed her appreciation for those in attendance and for sharing their concerns. She noted everyone is working together to get through these trying times.

Member Levens-Craig expressed her gratitude for being allowed to join remotely and asked if junior high students would be attending full-day. Superintendent Baranski noted it was intended for students to return all-day, full-day instruction, with electives. She shared discussion would be held on junior high student rotations.

President Ryan expressed her gratitude towards those in attendance and online and noted their concerns were heard and be taken into consideration as allowed.

J. CLOSED SESSION

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

1. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation** (Gov't. Code § 54956.9)
- OAH #: -2021030614 and 2021030629 (consolidated)
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 8:12 p.m.

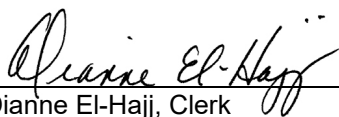
K. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

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 Burns, seconded by Member El-Hajj 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:	<u>Burns</u>	Ryan	<u>Aye</u>	Fox	<u>Aye</u>
Second:	<u>El-Hajj</u>	Levens-Craig	<u>Aye</u>	Burns	<u>Aye</u>
Vote:	<u>5-0</u>	El-Hajj	<u>Aye</u>		

L. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the regular meeting of July 20, 2021, was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.



Dianne El-Hajj, Clerk



Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary