

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

March 19, 2024
MINUTES

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

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present:

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

Administration present:

Dr. Kristin Baranski, Superintendent
Dr. Marcia Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Dr. Lisa Paisley, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
David MacLeod, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources/Pupil Services
Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary

President Burns noted Member Fox was not in attendance.

2. District Mission

President Burns invited everyone to recite the District Mission.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Lisa Arreola, Executive Assistant, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

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|----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <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>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</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
- 1.4. Schedule of Upcoming Events

2. Spotlight on Education: Cajon Park School

Superintendent Baranski invited Principal Andy Johnston and Vice Principals Karen Hohimer and Courtney Bittle to share all the great things happening at Cajon Park School. Principal Johnston shared staff works as a team to deliver best instructional practices while promoting positive feelings of safety and belonging. Their presentation included CAASPP and iReady Data from spring 2023; and Panorama Survey results from fall 2023; Academic Action Steps (i.e., First Best Instructional Practices; Professional Learning Communities; and MTSS Interventions); Climate and Culture Action Steps (Hope Squad; Middle School

Opportunities; Falcon Families; Falcon P.R.O.U.D.; and Molly, emotional support dog). The presentation included a video of students being “Falcon Proud”.

Member El-Hajj expressed their gratitude towards Cajon Park staff for all of the great things happening at the school. President Burns noted being a former Falcon and having a long family history of proud Falcons in his family. Members Levens-Craig shared being a proud parent of former Cajon Park students and now a proud grandparent of Cajon Park students. Member Ryan shared being proud parents of former Cajon Park students.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

President Burns invited members of the audience to address the Board about any item not on the agenda. There were ten (10) requests to speak.

Rebecca Cress, teacher, shared concerns with the proposed Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) program model changes and its effect on student learning. She asked Administration to find other ways to support teacher release time.

Mary Beth Atkinson, teacher, shared concerns with the proposed Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) program model changes. She asked that Administration collaborate with teachers on a more cohesive plan that benefits all students.

Debbie Williams, teacher, asked that the Board show respect to the teachers by honoring a contract. She shared being disheartened to learn the current contract negotiations were cancelled and pending the May Revise. Ms. Williams noted the importance of keeping quality personnel and asked that the Board negotiate their contract.

Jennifer Keiser, teacher, shared the Pepper Drive students, staff and community survey results showed music as their preference for their Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) model. Ms. Keiser asked that Administration collaborate with VAPA teachers, as noted in Prop 28, on a more cohesive model to serve the students. Tracie Kull donated her time to Jennifer Keiser.

Michelle P. McNearney, teacher, read a statement on behalf of Tina Schipke on the benefits of smaller class sizes. Leslie Peterson donated her time to Michelle P. McNearney.

Robin Larson, teacher, shared concerns with the proposed Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) program model changes and noted the proposed rotation of teachers would sonder the programs they have each developed at their sites. Ms. Larson asked Administration to work with the teachers on a new program model. Lea Hallinan donated her time to Robin Larson.

Joey Sutera, teacher, shared concerns with the proposed Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) program model changes and asked for collaboration to develop high quality visual arts programs that attract children to the District, instead of losing them to neighboring districts.

Merry Board, teacher, stressed concerns with the lack of interest of student teachers to teach in the District. She shared student teachers are going to other districts for more compensation and better employee benefits.

Jacob Poynor, parent, stressed concerns and dissatisfaction on how his student’s assault was handled by the school personnel.

Christopher Nowlin, community member, advocated for using reserve funds to secure a teacher contract and keeping low class size.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Proposed Increase to Level 1 Developer Fees

President Burns opened the public hearing for the proposed increase to Level 1 Developer Fees. There were no comments. The public hearing was closed.

E. CONSENT ITEMS

President Burns 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 Expenditure Warrants
- 2.3. Approval/Ratification of Purchase Orders
- 2.4. Approval/Ratification of General Services Agreements
- 2.5. Approval/Ratification of Agreements for Mileage Reimbursement In Lieu of District Transportation
- 2.6. Acceptance of Donations, Grants, and Bequests
- 2.7. Approval to Contract through the CUPCCAA Informal Bid Process by Awarding the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bid for Spring Break Projects
- 2.8. Adoption of Resolution No. 2324-12 Increasing Level 1 Fees on Development Projects
- 2.9. Approval of the 2024-25 Transportation Plan
- 3.1. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with SPG Therapy for Speech Therapy
- 3.2. Ratification of Nonpublic School Master Contract with The Institute for Effective Education Nonpublic School Services
- 3.3. Approval of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with SAI Learning, LLC for IEE in the Area of Assertive Technology
- 3.4. Approval of Revised Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan
- 3.5. Approval of the Amendment of Nonpublic Agency Master Contract with Verbal Behavior Associates (VBA) for Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE)
- 4.1. Personnel, Regular
- 4.2. Approval of Short-Term Services Agreements
- 4.3. Approval to Revise Classified Non-Management Job Descriptions: Instructional Media Technician and Paraeducator – Multilingual Learner Support
- 4.4. Approval of Recommendation of Classified Non-Management Reallocation Study

Member Levens-Craig moved approval.

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| <i>Motion:</i> | <u>Levens-Craig</u> | <i>Burns</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>El-Hajj</i> | <u>Aye</u> |
| <i>Second:</i> | <u>Ryan</u> | <i>Ryan</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>Fox</i> | <u>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</i> | <u>Aye</u> | | |

F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

Superintendent

- 1.1. Appointment of Director, Fiscal Services
 Superintendent Baranski noted that with the recent resignation of the current Director, Administration conducted second round interviews earlier in the day and was recommending the appointment of Sema Albadrani. Mrs. Albadrani is currently the Finance Manager for Poway Unified School District and prior to that, she was employed by Sweetwater Union High School District as an Accountant, from 2016-17, then promoted to Budget Analyst, from 2017-2022. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Commercial Law, and a Masters of Business Administration from universities in Jordan. Pending pre-employment, Mrs. Albadrani's tentative start date is April 8. Mrs. Albadrani expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve the students, staff, and Santee School District community.

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| <i>Motion:</i> | <u>El-Hajj</u> | <i>Burns</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>El-Hajj</i> | <u>Aye</u> |
| <i>Second:</i> | <u>Ryan</u> | <i>Ryan</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>Fox</i> | <u>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</i> | <u>Aye</u> | | |

Business Services

2.1. Monthly Financial Report

Dr. Marcia Hamilton, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented the monthly financial report for cash and budget revision transactions posted from January 1, 2024 through January 31, 2024. The District ended the month with a cash balance in the General Fund of approximately \$40,953,769, sufficient funds to pay all of the District's financial obligations with internal cash.

Dr. Hamilton explained the use and availability of Unrestricted (discretionary) and Restricted (non-discretionary, set-aside for restricted programs) Funds and the Projected Ending Fund Balance. She noted the Uncommitted/Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance was \$24,331,263 of which approximately \$13.9 million was committed to Certificates of Participation debt, anticipated increases to liability and property insurance, retirement/post-employment benefits, and increases to STRS/CalPERS contributions, etc., equivalent to a 10% reserve and not 24%.

Member El-Hajj noted the State has deferred funding in prior years and the need to have a healthy reserve to continue to meet the District's obligations (i.e., payroll). Dr. Hamilton noted deferrals to K-12 education were some of the things being proposed by the Legislative Analyst Office to assist with the State's \$38 billion shortfall.

Member Ryan explained the Board's priority has always been to keep a healthy reserve to avoid staff layoffs during times of economic uncertainty. Member Ryan moved approval.

| Monthly Financial Report - January | | | | 2 |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| Budget Revisions Through January 31, 2024 2023-24 Revised Budget | | | | NOTE: Page 1 inadvertently added twice. Page 2 added 03/19/2024. |
| | <u>Unrestricted</u> | <u>Restricted</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
| Beginning Fund Balance | 26,057,482 | 13,051,837 | 39,109,319 | |
| Estimated Income | 60,437,469 | 37,960,566 | 98,398,035 | |
| Estimated Expenditures | 58,199,946 | 40,756,447 | 98,956,393 | |
| Change in Fund Balance | 2,237,523 | (2,795,881) | (558,358) | |
| Projected Ending Fund Balance | 28,295,005 | 10,255,956 | 38,550,961 | |
| Less: Restricted Program Carryovers | - | 10,255,956 | 10,255,956 | |
| Less: Non-Spendable | | | | |
| Prepaid Expenses | 375,869 | - | 375,869 | |
| Revolving Cash Fund | 20,000 | - | 20,000 | |
| Stores Inventory | 260,965 | - | 260,965 | |
| Less: Assigned Vacation Carryover | 338,216 | - | 338,216 | |
| Assigned Site Carryover Balances | - | - | - | |
| Less: Economic Uncertainty Reserve | 2,968,692 | - | 2,968,692 | |
| Less: Reserve for State Budget Uncertainty | - | - | - | |
| Uncommitted/Unassigned/Unappropriated Fund Balance | 24,331,263 | - | 24,331,263 | |
| Fund 17 Projected End of Year Balance | - | - | - | |
| Projected Reserves | <u>27,299,955</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>27,299,955</u> | |
| | <u>January</u> | <u>December</u> | | |
| Projected Reserve % 2023-24 ¹ | 27.59% | 26.38% | | |
| Projected Reserve % 2024-25 ² | 21.65% | 22.44% | | |
| Projected Reserve % 2025-26 ² | 10.76% | 14.61% | | |
| As a % of the Estimated Expense Total ¹ | | | | |
| Based on Multi-Year Projection at 2nd Interim- January 2024 ² | | | | |

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| <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>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</i> | <u>Aye</u> | | |

Human Resource/Pupil Services

3.1. Adoption of Resolution No. 2324-13, Declaring May 8, 2024 as Santee School District's Day of the Teacher

David MacLeod, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources/Pupil Services, presented Resolution No. 2324-13, declaring May 8, 2024 as the District's Day of the Teacher. The resolution recognized certificated employees' dedication to meet the needs of all students. Member El-Hajj moved approval.

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| <i>Motion:</i> | <u>El-Hajj</u> | <i>Burns</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>El-Hajj</i> | <u>Aye</u> |
| <i>Second:</i> | <u>Ryan</u> | <i>Ryan</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>Fox</i> | <u>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</i> | <u>Aye</u> | | |

3.2. Adoption of Resolution 2324-14, Declaring May 19-25, 2024 as Santee School District's Classified School Employees Week

David MacLeod, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources/Pupil Services, presented Resolution No. 2324-14, declaring May 19-25, 2024 as the District's Classified School Employees Week. The resolution recognized their caring deeds and contributions to the Santee School District community. Member El-Hajj moved approval.

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| <i>Motion:</i> | <u>El-Hajj</u> | <i>Burns</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>El-Hajj</i> | <u>Aye</u> |
| <i>Second:</i> | <u>Levens-Craig</u> | <i>Ryan</i> | <u>Aye</u> | <i>Fox</i> | <u>Not Present</u> |
| <i>Vote:</i> | <u>4-0</u> | <i>Levens-Craig</i> | <u>Aye</u> | | |

G. **EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION COMMUNICATION**

Melanie Hirahara, Santee Teachers Association (STA) President, shared support for the teachers who spoke during public communication; and feeling proud of all teachers for their work in making Santee School District the only district in East County to be in the "green" on the dashboard. Mrs. Hirahara noted one of the cost-saving measures for the 2024-25 school year included increasing class size, even though LCAP input showed teacher and community support of smaller class size. She shared STA had provided a list of suggested budget cuts to Executive Council, in hopes of keeping cuts away from the classroom. Mrs. Hirahara noted that during her tenure, District reserves have not been below 10%, even during times of uncertainty. She shared the importance of honoring teachers by negotiating.

CSEA representatives were not present.

H. **BOARD COMMUNICATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS**

Superintendent Baranski noted some Board members and staff had attended the Santee Chamber Business Awards Night where the District was the recipient of Santee's Favorite – Education Category award. She commended staff for their hard work. Superintendent Baranski acknowledged the following honorees: Pam Mitchell and Michelle May, SELPA CAC (Community Advisory Committee); and Carrie Thompson, for being selected as one of San Diego County School Social Worker of the Year. Superintendent Baranski shared spring break was March 25-April 5, and noted the next Board meeting was April 16.

Member Ryan discussed support for Senate Bill (SB) 1011 sponsored by Senator Brian Jones. SB 1011 would bar homeless encampments near schools, open spaces and major transit stops, while requiring enforcement officers provide encampment residents with information on sleeping alternatives, homeless and mental health services, and shelters in the area having availability. Member Levens-Craig shared concerns with giving direction without knowing enough about the bill. President Burns and Member El-Hajj stressed support. Administration to proceed and share the letter with the Board.

Member Levens-Craig shared enjoying visits to Pepper Drive and PRIDE Academy; and inquired on science projects/activities for the April 8 eclipse.

President Burns noted for public record the Board received correspondence from Member Fox, dated March 19, 2024, requesting a temporary leave of absence to deal with health-related issues.

I. CLOSED SESSION

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

1. **Conference with Labor Negotiator** (Gov't. Code § 54957.6)
Purpose: Negotiations
Agency Negotiators: David MacLeod, 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 7:28 p.m.

J. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to public session at 8:46 p.m. and reported no action was taken in closed session.

K. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.



Elana Levens-Craig, Clerk



Dr. Kristin Baranski, Secretary