



SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

4444 Scotts Valley Drive, Suite 5B

Scotts Valley, CA 95066-4529

(831) 438-1820 • FAX: (831)438-2314 • svusd@santacruz.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT
(831) 438-1820

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
(831) 438-2055

BUSINESS SERVICES
(831) 438-2312

PERSONNEL
(831) 438-1822

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Minutes of Regular Meeting March 9, 2010

CLOSED SESSION – 5:30pm
SCOTTS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
One Civic Center Drive
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

PUBLIC SESSION: 6:00pm
SCOTTS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
One Civic Center Drive
Scotts Valley, CA 95066

PUBLIC SESSION CALLED TO ORDER

Board President Michael Shulman called the Public Session to order at 5:30 p.m. **Board Members present:** Michael Shulman, Allison Niday, Larry Beaman, Sue Roth and Jondi Gumz. Also in attendance was Superintendent Susan Silver and Director of Student Services Evelyn Clancy.

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION at 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

- A. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9) Case: OAH No. N2009101423**
- B. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957)**

ADJOURNED CLOSED SESSION at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION CALLED TO ORDER

Board President Michael Shulman called the Public Session to order at 6:01 p.m. **Board Members present:** Michael Shulman, Allison Niday, Larry Beaman, Sue Roth, Jondi Gumz and Student Advisory Member Lizzie Zweng. **Administration present:** Superintendent Susan Silver, Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Kathy Dunton, Director of Student Services Evelyn Clancy, Human Resources Administrator Carolyn Lewis, Director of Technology Shannon Calden, Director of Business Services Vickie Clark, Scotts Valley High School Assistant Principal Valerie Bariteau and Brook Knoll Elementary School Principal Kathy Frandle.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT

- A. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9) Case: OAH No. N2009101423**
The Board voted 5-0 to support the staff recommendation.
- B. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (Government Code Section 54957)** The Board voted 5-0 to support the non-reelect of one certificated position.

SET THE AGENDA

Board President Michael Shulman requested that item B1 be moved to A1 and A1 moved to B1 to facilitate the audience hearing the Second Interim Report before the continuing discussion of the District's Fiscal Situation.

MSP Niday/Gumz 5-0 Student Advisory Vote: Aye

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Superintendent Silver and three members of the administrative team facilitated a conversation with the Scotts Valley Middle School certificated staff last Wednesday to determine how to evaluate the pilot program. The meeting was both effective and productive with everyone participating. The certificated staff chose work groups and will disseminate data to bring to the Board some time in May. It appeared that almost everyone on staff wanted to continue the pilot program another year. The side-letter of agreement is for one year so this will be something the Board will need to support when the time comes.
- The Facilitation Training started last week with the first two sessions. There were approximately forty participants including certificated, classified and administrative employees. Everyone was enthusiastic and positive that the training will move the district forward focusing on student achievement. The group had their first phone conference with the Facilitation Trainer Steve Zuieback this morning at 7 a.m. Several administrators and one teacher were able to call in while traveling and others from their sites.
- Superintendent Silver has for the past two years been conducting quarterly reviews with all the employees that report directly to her. She thanked the Board for allowing her to also have quarterly reviews with them. The process seems to be a good one with staff because it sets aside time each quarter to talk about what is going on. It is seldom that we have time for reflection and to discuss adjustments that may need to be made.
- Several administrators visited Noddin School this week to observe RTI strategies that can be implemented in our district with meaningful activities for the advanced students as well as intervention for students who need additional support.
- Costs for special education students is increasing across the nation. However, Scotts Valley Unified School District is experiencing growth in costs beyond what most districts are experiencing. All Superintendents in Santa Cruz County also sit on the Board for SELPA and to better understand these increasing costs have requested the FCMAT team to come assess what is happening in the SELPA and COE Special Education program. The FCMAT team will be here next week and may be able to determine areas that need attention. The team will give a verbal overview next Thursday and then submit a written report. Superintendent Silver was not sure if the verbal overview is open to the public but will check on it.
- The Vine Hill fifth graders' service group held a cupcake sale and raised \$600. They gave the proceeds to the Scotts Valley Rotary who does shelter boxes which contain pots, pans and supplies for daily living for people in need.

STUDENT ADVISORY MEMBER'S REPORT

Student Advisory Member Lizzie Zweng said that Art Night last Friday went very well with lots of creativity on display. The high school is holding a rally this Friday with an Olympic theme. On March 19th there will be a spring dance themed MORP which is prom spelled backwards where instead of formals students will wear costumes.

SCCSBA/CSBA REPORT

Board Vice President Allison Niday was in Sacramento on Friday at the CSBA Legislative Action Committee. The charter was to review bills that have education as the focus and make decisions as whether to support, oppose, take a neutral stance, approve or disapprove. There are lots of side conversations among representatives from counties across the state and all districts are having hard times. The next SCCSBA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 11th at 6:00pm in the Santa Cruz High School Library. There is also a proposed resolution opposing Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal of 2.5 billion in deferrals that Ms. Niday would like to bring to the Board in two weeks. The CSBA web site has sample letters that the public can use and mail to Legislators.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – ORAL

Wendy Brannan addressed the Board regarding the Brown Act, Site Council training and appropriate meeting behaviors.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

A. BUSINESS moved to A1

Jelcick

1. Approve the 2009-10 Second Interim Financial Report

MSP Roth/Beaman 5-0 Student Advisory Vote: Aye

Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick presented the second interim report which provides a comparison of the General Fund budget as adopted in June, with the most current budget projections. She also provided both budget and actual data for the period of July 1st through January 31st. Board members asked clarifying questions. Board Vice President Allison Niday, also a member of the CSBA Delegate Assembly, said that discussion with CSBA indicated that they would not support a bill that mandates improvements for education without funding to support it.

B. ADMINISTRATION Moved from A1

Silver

1. Continue Discussion Among Themselves and with Community Members Concerning the District's Fiscal Situation, Including Budget Development, Sources of Revenues, Possible Expenditures and Actions that Might be Taken to Keep the District Fiscally Solvent

- Student Advisory Member Lizzie Zweng said that she worked with the high school newspaper and found out the next issue will be an April Fool paper so she will need to put an article in the May paper. The student government class would like to have a couple of Board members come talk to the class. Board Vice President Niday suggested that interested students might want to learn more about the campaign process.
- Board member Jondi Gumz is trying to schedule meetings with senior citizens in the community. The Scotts Valley Senior Center said a Board member could come to the center to speak briefly but they have activities scheduled for most of the day. Ms. Gumz asked if retired people could volunteer at the schools which might make them advocates for education. Ms. Gumz also asked if each school site did fundraising, how much would each site need? Superintendent Silver explained that any revenues would need to go toward the large short fall that the district will experience in 2011-12.
- Board Member Sue Roth has meetings scheduled with community members set up for the next few weeks and encouraged people to give her a call to arrange a get together. She reminded everyone that we are not alone in our fiscal situation, that all districts in the state are facing similar woes. Ms. Roth also said that we need to stay united as a district and take individual responsibility because we all play a part.
- Board Clerk Larry Beaman spoke with the President of the Senior Coalition and was told that the Senior Coalition will not support a tax of any kind for any reason because seniors are on fixed incomes. When asked if the seniors would support a tax if there was a senior exemption the answer was still no because the exemptions have to be renewed each year and seniors forget to do it.
- Board Vice President Allison Niday continues to meet with parent groups but would like to meet with some non-parent groups. Ms. Niday said the initiative for reducing the percentage to pass a parcel tax from 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % to 55% is moving right along. California Forward and Reform California are talking about reforms but will probably not have anything on the ballot because the funds are not available.
- Board President Michael Shulman had a number of meetings with individuals and groups over the past two weeks. He said that obviously the Board is struggling to reach non parent members of the community. Also it looks like 2012 before the district could get any revenue from a parcel tax if it did

pass. Mr. Shulman feels we need a survey to get a good feeling as to whether a parcel tax would pass. How do we get all the community informed? The Board is not enough. A citizens committee needs to be formed to inform the community. Superintendent Silver reminded the Board that the Fiscal Advisory Committee was initiated to educate interested community members so that they could in turn go out and educate the community, but people drop out of the committee and then the district starts over again and again. Mr. Shulman asked that interested parties please leave their name and email addresses on the back table and he would contact them.

Wendy Brannan, Ann Codd and Carol Freeman addressed the Board with suggestions, ideas and questions regarding this agenda item.

C. PERSONNEL

Lewis

1. **Approve the Board Resolution 10-017, Which Directs the Superintendent to Reduce or Eliminate Certain Certificated Services**

MSP Roth/Niday Roll Call Vote: 5-0 Student Advisory Vote: Aye

Superintendent Silver said she wanted to introduce this agenda item very carefully since she has been misquoted in the Banner and by various people. When the district realized there would have to be a resolution for reduction of certificated services Superintendent Silver sent a letter to the high school staff and parents to clearly explain the resolution and positions affected. Superintendent Silver read the letter she sent to the high school staff and parents. Board Member Jondi Gumz inquired about the process for students to sign-up for courses for the coming school year. SVHS Assistant Principal Valerie Bariteau explained the process, the improvements implemented over the past few years and the fact that the process can not begin until after the first semester ends and grades are posted. The Board discussion included the need to have the information earlier, and possible legislation to change deadlines required by the State.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Silver

MSP Niday/Roth 5-0 Student Advisory Vote: Aye

1. **Approve Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2010**
2. **Approve a Student Teaching and Practicum Agreement with Brandman University**
3. **Approve a Student Teaching and Practicum Agreement with Bethany University**
4. **Approve a Two Day Trip for the Scotts Valley Middle School Surfing Team to Attend the Interscholastic Surfing State Championships in Oceanside, California**
5. **Approve a Trip for the Scotts Valley High School Football Team and Cheerleaders to Participate in a Football Game in Amity, Oregon on September 1 through 4, 2010**
6. **Approve the Appointment of Scott and Heather Stratford to North Santa Cruz County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC)**
7. **Approve the Certificated Personnel Action Report**
8. **Approve Warrants**

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Board Member Jondi Gumz congratulated the high school mock trial team on their success. Ms. Gumz attended the Art Night at the high school with over 200 pieces of art on display. She also heard that fifth grade teacher Ann Codd discovered a shortcut for entering data that will save all teachers time. The Science Fair is coming up on Saturday. There is a woman in Spring Lakes that is collecting crutches to send to Haiti. You may drop of donations at any fire station.
- Board Member Sue Roth apologized for missing part of the Superintendent's quarterly review, but feels these reviews are very important and helpful. Ms. Roth is taking a webinar on social networking at schools and also attended the speech contest at the high school.
- Board Clerk Larry Beaman had a great week and had loads of fun at the Brook Knoll PTA Auction/Dinner on Saturday. The auction was very successful.
- Board Vice President Allison Niday was in Sacramento on Friday at the CSBA Legislative Action Delegate Assembly. Ms. Niday chaired and participated in the Falcon Club Spring Forward Fundraiser Auction at the Scotts Valley Community Center on Saturday which made approximately \$2,000.
- Board President Michael Shulman attended the rally for education at the town clock in Santa Cruz on Thursday. He also did a training ride for the upcoming SVEF Mt. Charlie Bike Ride Challenge scheduled for April 24th.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Michael Shulman adjourned the meeting at **8:20 p.m.**

Minutes Recorded By:

Minutes Approved By:

Brenda Spalding
Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

Larry Beaman
Clerk to the Board of Trustees