



SCOTTS VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES Minutes of Regular Meeting November 16, 2010

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 6:05 p.m. **Board Members present:** Michael Shulman, Allison Niday, Larry Beaman, Sue Roth, Jondi Gumz and Student Advisory Member Blaire Ward.

Administration present: Superintendent Susan Silver, Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Kathy Dunton, Director of Student Services Gerri Fippin, Human Resources Administrator Carolyn Lewis, Director of Business Services Vickie Clark, Scotts Valley High School Principal Valerie Bariteau, Scotts Valley High School Assistant Principal Daniel Denton, Scotts Valley Middle School Principal Mary Lonhart, Vine Hill Elementary Principal Michelle Stewart and Brook Knoll Elementary Principal Phil Menchaca.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Michael Shulman asked for a moment of silence in memory of Daniel Garcia.

SET THE AGENDA

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

RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBERS ALLISON NIDAY AND JONDI GUMZ

Board Members spoke of the dedication and hard work of outgoing Board Members Allison Niday and Jondi Gumz. Allison Niday was elected in 2002 serving the district for eight years and Jondi Gumz was elected in 2006 serving the district for four years. The Board expressed their thanks and spoke of the bonds that have been built over the years of working together. Ms. Niday and Ms. Gumz were presented with tokens of appreciation. John Abel, Board Member elect, expressed his thanks also. Ms. Niday and Ms. Gumz expressed their appreciation to the community for the opportunity to serve.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Superintendent Susan Silver explained the results of the recent SVUSD Board of Trustees election and the process for formally installing the new Board Members, John Abel and Art Bubb, at the December 14th Board meeting.
- The district has held five Community Forums over the last two weeks at various locations, dates and times. The Board's objective was to communicate with and hear from all community members regarding the possibility of a parcel tax to alleviate the impending fiscal crisis imposed on the district by the budget cuts from the State.

- The November 1st Professional Development Day went well with elementary and secondary teachers meeting separately. The elementary teachers worked on early intervention for students at risk with presenters from the County Office of Education. The secondary teachers worked on Writing Across the Curriculum facilitated by SVUSD teachers and administrators.
- The Scotts Valley Branch of Cabrillo College classes will be cut, due to limited resources, to include predominately classes required for achieving a two year degree.
- Superintendent Silver read the times and dates of services for Daniel Garcia and invited the community to join staff and students in celebrating Daniel Garcia's life at a memorial service to be held at Scotts Valley High School on November 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

STUDENT ADVISORY MEMBER'S REPORT

Student Advisory Member Blaire Ward said students will be selling bracelets and t-shirts at the memorial to commemorate Daniel's life with the proceeds going to help his family. Student Government today voted to conduct a Harry Potter dress-up day and are selling "Ride the Wave to Quality Education" t-shirts with proceeds going to Scotts Valley Educational Foundation to benefit all schools.

SCCSBA/CSBA REPORT

Board Vice President Allison Niday said the SCCSBA is finalizing the schedule for Board Member training through CSBA and sponsored by the SCCOE. At the SVUSD organizational Board meeting in December the Board will elect a Board Member to represent SVUSD on the SCCSBA. As the current Delegate Assembly representative for sub region 9A, Ms. Niday reminded the Board that an election for a new representative will be held in 2011 with nominations due in January. She said the Delegate Assembly is a great opportunity to learn more about the educational legislation at the state level. The CSBA audit is complete and if anyone is interested in seeing the report they may contact Ms. Niday. At the Delegate Assembly in December the group will be discussing the role of CSBA.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – ORAL

Katie Bagley addressed the Board as the SVEF volunteer coordinator for the upcoming Tree Lot fundraiser and to ask for more adult volunteers to help with the lot. If you would like to help you may sign-up on the SVEF web site at <http://www.svef.net/>.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

A. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Fippin

1. **Accept Information on the Special Education Programs in the Scotts Valley Unified School District**
 Director of Student Services Gerri Fippin gave an overview of the special education program and services for the SVUSD. The presentation is available on the district web site at <http://www.svusd.santacruz.k12.ca.us/ip/documents/SpEdPres111610.pdf>. Board Members asked clarifying questions regarding the program and services, how the success of the program is measured, training of staff and relationships with parents.
Peter McLean addressed the Board regarding this agenda item with various questions regarding self-review, the preschool program, level of need of students being served, the number of students being served and other. Ms. Fippin responded to Mr. McLean's comments.
Susie Christensen addressed the Board regarding the preschool program and personal experiences.
Wendy Brannan addressed the Board regarding the child-find program. Ms. Fippin responded to the comments.
Brian Ruf addressed the Board with questions regarding state and federal funding for special education. Superintendent Silver and Board Members responded to Mr. Ruf's comments.

B. ADMINISTRATION

Silver

1. Discuss Recently Held Community Forums, Including the Possibility of a Parcel Tax, In Order to Provide Direction to Administration

Board President Michael Shulman opened the discussion with some observations that the forums were conducted to provide information to the community and to receive input as to whether the community would support a parcel tax. The Board will need to make a decision as to go forward with a parcel tax or do a formal polling of the community to determine support. He invited the Board Members to share their impressions of the forums.

- Board Member Sue Roth read through a list of items she felt community members expressed most often regarding a parcel tax. Community members want a specific timeline with an end date, senior exemptions, well defined criteria for the use of the money, as well as a consolidated list of cuts already made and cuts to be made if the parcel tax is not successful and a list of programs paid for now by PTA/Parent Club and other donations. She also felt the mail-in ballot was the most economical and attainable option.
- Board Vice President Allison Niday said the structural direction for running a parcel tax campaign is built into the law with specifics as to what type of committees must be set up and of whom the committees must be comprised. Ms. Niday said she feels that community members want to know the cuts that the district has already and a list of cuts if the parcel tax is not successful. She expressed her concern and frustration regarding members of the community who feel this is not their problem since they no longer have children in school. Children are our future.
- Board Clerk Larry Beaman said parents and community members need to trust the Board. He felt the issue was not the amount of a parcel tax but the timing. Mr. Beaman expressed his opinion that the forums did not generate useful information. He expressed the need for a formal poll and asked if the County Office of Education would be willing to help fund the poll and campaign.
- Student Advisory Member Blaire Ward expressed her opinion that the Board had done everything possible to communicate with community members by holding the forums and the open discussions at each Board meeting. She suggested televising the Board meetings. Board Vice President Allison Niday passed along an idea submitted at one of the forums from SVHS student Lizzie Zweng to have two to three minute student-made videos posted on U tube to get information out to the community. The public doesn't seem to want to listen to hours of dialogue, but small two to three minute spots on U tube might be more effective.
- Board Member Jondi Gumz said she was very pleased to have approximately fifty people, spanning a large age range, come to the forum on Saturday with the discussion lasting for several hours. She also mentioned some of the information the community wants to know such as specific end date for the parcel tax, senior exemptions, monitoring committee and what actions have already been taken by the district.
- Board President Michael Shulman said the Board is faced with a timeline for decisions if they want to see revenue from a parcel tax in the 2011-12 school year. He asked that the district collect information regarding polling firms and expressed his feelings that a poll would give the Board direction. Mr. Shulman also expressed the need for the Board to somehow communicate to the public that the school district is an asset to the community.

Wendy Brannan addressed the Board regarding what questions should be asked of the Board and the community and suggested not going forward with a formal poll.

John Abel addressed the Board to commend Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick on the excellent presentations at the forums and to suggest the Board go forward with a formal poll. He also suggested continuing public relations and televising the Board meetings.

Ann Codd addressed the Board regarding public relations and publicizing the sacrifices teachers have made to avoid alienating the district's largest work force.

John Magliato addressed the Board stating the district hides problems behind high test scores and the discussion of furlough days.

Mark Dettle addressed the Board stating that he had attended one of the Community Forums and offering suggestions to the Board for next steps such as having a plan for five years out and a plan for the possibility

of the parcel tax not be successful.

The Board gave direction to Superintendent Silver to collect information on polling consultants to discuss at the December 14th Board meeting.

C. BUSINESS

Jelcick

1. Approve the 2010-11 First Interim Financial Report

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

Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick presented the First Interim Financial Report with comparisons of the General Fund Budget, as adopted in June, with the most current budget projections. The multi-year projection demonstrates that the district will be in a positive position for the current year as well as the next fiscal year. Board Members asked clarifying questions. The presentation is available on the district web site at <http://www.svusd.santacruz.k12.ca.us/finance/documents/FirstInterimReport1011111610.pdf>.

John Magliato addressed the Board regarding this agenda item and the term projections as used in multi-year projections.

2. Approve Resolution No. 11-010, the Report of Developer Fees

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

Chief Business Official Karen Jelcick explained the developer fees report, the type of fees collected and their use and the requirements of the report imposed by Government Code.

3. Accept Donations to Scotts Valley Unified School District

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

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Silver

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

1. Approve Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2010

2. Approve the Classified Action Report

3. Approve Warrants

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Board Member Sue Roth commented on a Girl Scout strategic learning process she is involved in that encompasses California standards.
- Board member Jondi Gumz expressed her thanks to Scotts Valley Police Officer Mark Lopez for organizing the sale of t-shirts to benefit Daniel Garcia's family.

ADJOURNMENT

Board President Michael Shulman adjourned the meeting at **8:43 p.m.**

Minutes Recorded By:

Minutes Approved By:

Brenda Spalding
Administrative Assistant to Superintendent

Larry Beaman
Clerk to the Board of Trustees