

U N A D O P T E D M I N U T E S

of the Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
October 20, 2015

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Stys at 5:03 p.m.

Governing Board of Trustees present: Sharon Stys, Sylvia Macias, Francisco “Javi” Santana, Jan Baird, Deborah Pacheco

Others present:

Gail Baxter, Superintendent

Cecilia Laidemitt, Associate Superintendent of
Administrative Services and Personnel Management

Mark Keriakous, Associate Superintendent of Business Services

Martha Mestanza – Rojas, Associate Superintendent of Educational
Services

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Elias Alvarado

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no public comments on closed session items.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees commenced closed session at 5:04 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees resumed open session at 6:03 p.m.

Mrs. Stys reported that the Board took action in closed session to extend Superintendent Baxter’s contract by one year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Josie Tafoya, CSEA President briefly described the important role the Library Clerks at each school site play and what a “magnificent job” they are doing in order to encourage students to be more engaged in reading. Library Clerks are important in the implementation of programs such as Accelerated Reader. Josie Tafoya mentioned that the Library is essential for student’s education and the Library Clerks help spark interest in reading beyond the classroom.

Asunción Gómez, Library Clerk at Carmela addressed the Board of Trustees with the opening statement of how much she enjoys working as a Library Clerk and how much she has learned over the years. Asunción briefly described her career path that led her to becoming a Library Clerk at Carmela School and how rewarding it

feels to see the students engaged in reading and are successful as students. Asunción stated that the Library is a very important part of the Education System. Asunción mentioned that Parents often come to the school library seeking help on basic computer functions, such as downloading and printing a file. Asunción is hopeful that in the future something can be implemented to help parents understand the use of technology. Asunción also pointed out that the implementation of new technology may be a challenge initially, but welcomed because it is helpful in keeping up with the technology as it continues to evolve and that will help the students become successful.

Asunción closed her comment by stating that the reality is we live in a world driven by technology and it is essential that the Library Clerks are provided with the tools needed to be productive as a South Whittier School District employee. Asunción thanked the Board of Trustees for the opportunity and a special thank you to Superintendent, Gail Baxter for encouraging her to become a Library Clerk when the opportunity presented itself many years ago.

Mayra Rivera, Library Clerk at Lake Marie School, expressed to the Board of Trustees how much she genuinely loves working as a Library Clerk. Mayra is a former South Whittier School District student. Mayra has now been an employee of the South Whittier School District for 12 years. Mayra enjoys feedback from the students and seeing that her work helps make a difference in student's lives. Myra shared that it truly is rewarding to watch the students light up after she finishes reading a book to them. Myra thanked the Board of Trustees for the opportunity.

SHOOL PRESENTATION

Ms. Larios opened the presentation by stating that the meaning to the word "literacy" is usually associated with reading and writing, but literacy goes beyond reading and writing. Literacy extends to developing a base knowledge in a specific area depending on the career that the student chooses to pursue. A brief video was shown comprised of students sharing what career they dream of pursuing. Students mentioned careers such as dreaming of becoming an Architect, a SWAT Negotiator, a Navy Seal Search and Rescue Agent, a Robotic Engineer, all careers that require specialized knowledge such as math literacy, ocean navigation, and psychology. Ms. Larios mentioned that the common thread of the careers that our students are choosing is to help others. Ms. Larios stated that it is our duty to help these students reach their dreams. The responsibility falls on each school site and the District to help set the foundation for the students to build a knowledge base to becoming successful in reaching their goals, and to instill in the students that dreams are attainable no matter what challenges students may face.

Zayd Cerrón, student at Monte Vista, addressed the Board of Trustees by sharing his dream of becoming a Robotic Engineer. At the end of Zayd's presentation Trustee Stys on behalf of the Board presented him with a certificate for his presentation.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR/
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Mrs. Laidemitt presented Gabriela Medina, a kindergarten Teacher from Loma Vista School to the board as the South Whittier School District Teacher of the Year for 2015. Many of her accomplishments were shared as evidence of why Gabby was selected to receive this award.

Mrs. Laidemitt presented Gloria Gonzales, the health clerk from Lake Marie School to the board as the South Whittier School District Classified Employee of the Year for 2015. Evidence of her accomplishments in the district were shared in support of her receiving this award. Both employees received plaques in recognition of their awards.

The board took a short break for a cake and punch reception and to congratulate the honorees.

COMMENTS BY TRUSTEES

All Board members congratulated the Teacher of the Year Gabriela Medina and CSEA Classified of the Year Gloria Gonzalez for their recognition and honor they bring to the District.

Trustee Pacheco shared that both her and Mr. Meza attended the Unity Conference. Trustee Pacheco felt the information to be enlightening in some ways and informative on the LCAP, LCFF. While at the Unity Conference, Trustee Pacheco and Mr. Meza were given the opportunity to enroll in the LCAP Reading Conference that will be held October 26-27 at Loyola Marymount. The required webinar for the LCAP review has been completed by both Trustee Pacheco and Mr. Meza.

Trustee Macias thanked Monte Vista School Principal, Andrea Larios for the informative presentation and expressed how wonderful it is to see student presentations.

Trustee Macias was touched by the comment made by Library Clerk, Myra Rivera when she described the rewarding feeling she gets to see student's expressions after reading a good book. Trustee Macias could relate to that feeling as she too had experienced it when she worked as a Library Clerk at McKibben, and how rewarding it is to run into former students that are all grown up who remember when she read to them.

Trustee Macias congratulated the honorees tonight. Trustee Macias commended all for the wonderful work that they are doing.

Trustee Santana apologized for not being able to attend the last Superintendents' Facility Advisory Committee due to a conflict in schedule but will attend the next schedule meeting and report back.

Trustee Baird enjoyed the presentations and congratulated the Teacher and Classified employees of the year. Trustee Baird expressed how wonderful it is hearing from the Library Clerks and of the wonderful work that they are doing for the District and the students.

Trustee Stys expressed what a great board meeting to hear of all the wonderful things that are happening in the District.

REPORTS

Mrs. Gail Baxter, Superintendent reported that we as a district have been very busy. She reported on the following:

Systems Leadership Collaborative – South Whittier has been invited to be one of 15 districts from around California to participate in a collaborative in order to successfully create and implement their district's LCAP. This is a yearlong process and our team of 7 has been working very hard for the past three weeks on defining our strategic focus. Our focus will be on improving literacy for all of our students with a focus on our English Learners resulting in improved scores in Reading and Writing. This focused process will help us move from viewing our LCAP as a budget document to thinking of our LCAP as a document that aligns resources to needs.

Supper Program- Food Services will be submitting an application to be able to implement a supper program to our students who are currently attending THINK Together. This program meets a need that exists in our community and has the potential to expand to more students and families outside of the THINK program in the future.

Substitute Pay- There is an item on the agenda to increase substitute pay. This is necessary to be able to cover classrooms for when teachers are out ill, on personal necessity or school business. Many days we are unable to fully cover our classrooms and this impacts the entire organization.

The district has been notified by Keygent that our bond refinancing has been completed and by approving this action the board has saved the taxpayers in South Whittier over \$1.2 million dollars over the term of the bond.

CONSENT

On a motion by Trustee Macias seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried the consent portion of the agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes

Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 15, 2015

Purchase Order List No. 04

Approved Purchase Order List No. 04

Contract/Memorandum of Understanding List No. 04

Approved Contract List No. 04

Contracts:

15-16-008A – Contractor: Whittier Area Parent’s Association for the Developmentally Handicapped (Amendment), Service: Will allow District to provide Augmentative & Alternative Communication Services to implement specialized tools and/or strategies to non-verbal students. Duration: 08/12/2015 – 06/01/2016, Amount: Current Agreement - \$2,000.00, Addendum/Additional Cost: \$2,184.00 Adjusted Contract, Agreement: Not to Exceed \$4,184.00

15-16-038 – Contractor: Olive Crest Academy, Service: Individual Service Agreement for Student #2186659585, Duration: 09/08/2015-06/30/2016, Amount: \$43,968.00

15-16-039 – On September Board Agenda

15-16-040 – On September Board Agenda

15-16-041 – On September Board Agenda

15-16-042 – On September Board Agenda

15-16-043 – Contractor: TLC Auctions, Service: To conduct an unreserved auction for the sale of all Board approved surplus District property, Duration: 07/01/2015-06/30/2016, Amount: District to pay 35% of gross sales to vendor.

15-16-044 – Contractor: Marsha Escalante, Service: Provide for a smooth transition between Director and Coordinator position, Duration: 10/21/2015-06/30/2016, Amount: Not to Exceed \$15,000.00

15-16-045 – Contractor: BTSA Induction Program, Service: Provide training for beginning teachers hired by the SWSD during their first 2 years of teaching, Duration: 08/01/2015-07/31/2017, Amount: \$7,500.00

15-16-046 – Contractor: Howard Taras, Service: Provides prescription for students who receive Occupational Therapy Services and Physical Therapy services in order to comply with Medi-Cal Billing Guidelines for LEA and MAA, Duration: 10/20/2015-06/30/2016, Amount: Not to Exceed \$1,440.00

15-16-047 – Contractor: Anthony Venti Realtors, Inc., Service: Provide services related to the potential lease of the Carmela Property, Duration: 10/05/2015-04/05/2016, Amount: \$25,000.00

15-16-048 – Contractor: Lauren Swanson, Service: Consultant to train four (4) Science Teachers on the transition to the next generation science standards, Duration: 10/28/2015-03/17/2016, Amount: \$7,500.00

15-16-049 - Contractor: Leverage Learning Group, Service: Will work with school site leadership and teachers of mathematics to deepen their understanding of District instructional expectations for implementation of the common core state standards, Duration: 10/21/2015-06/30/2017, Amount: \$18,000.00

Travel and Conference Report No. 04

Approved the Travel and Conference Report No. 04

Williams First Quarter report on Uniform Complaints 2015-2016

GENERAL

Proposed Board Policy 5112.1 Exemptions from Attendance (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Santana and seconded by Trustee Macias and unanimously carried the Proposed Board Policy 5112.1 Exemptions from Attendance was approved/adopted.

Proposed Administrative Regulation 5112.1 Exemptions from Attendance (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Baird and seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Proposed Administrative Regulation 5112.1 Exemptions from Attendance was approved.

Proposed Board Policy 5145.12 Search and Seizure (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Baird and seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Proposed Board Policy 5145.12 Search and Seizure was approved.

Proposed Board Policy 5141 Health Care and Emergencies (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Macias and seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried the Proposed Board Policy 5141 Health Care and Emergencies was approved.

Proposed Administrative Regulation 5141 Health Care and Emergencies (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Santana and seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried the Proposed Administrative Regulation 5141 Health Care and Emergencies was approved.

Proposed Board Policy 5141.21 Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Baird and seconded by Trustee Macias and unanimously carried the Proposed Board Policy 5141.21 Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions was approved.

Proposed Administrative Regulation 5141.21 Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Macias and seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried the Proposed Administrative Regulation 5141.21 Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions was approved.

Proposed Administrative Regulation 6173 Education for Homeless Children (Second Reading)

On a motion by Trustee Baird and seconded by Trustee Macias and unanimously carried the Proposed Administrative Regulation 6173 Education for Homeless Children was approved.

BUSINESS

Acceptance of Donation

On a motion by Trustee Santana and seconded by Trustee Baird and unanimously carried the Acceptance of Donation from Mr. Ernesto Castillo was approved. Mrs. Baxter, Superintendent/Secretary of the Board of Trustees will forward a letter of acknowledgement to Mr. Castillo on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Change in Substitute Pay – Substitute Teacher Salary Rates

On a motion by Trustee Santana and seconded by Trustee Macias and unanimously carried the Change in Substitute Pay – Substitute Teacher Salary Rates was approved.

Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Items

On a motion by Trustee Macias and seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete items was approved.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Local Control Accountability Report (LCAP) 2014-2015

Mrs. Martha Mestanza-Rojas, Associate Superintendent of Educational Services presented a detailed report on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) 2014-2015. The presentation highlighted how the Local Control and Accountability Plan establishes annual goals for all students. Mrs. Mestanza - Rojas provided details on the actions that will be taken to achieve these goals, and how funding will be spent to increase or improve services. The plan addresses the eight state priorities and the five goals that are included in the South Whittier School Districts LCAP. Mrs. Mestanza-Rojas mentioned that there are constant changes but we will all be moving forward together. All LCAP revisions will be presented to the Board for approval in May.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON CLOSED SESSION
ITEMS

There were no public comments on closed session items.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Trustees commenced closed session at 7:31 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees resumed open session at 7:51 p.m.

PERSONNEL

Classified Personnel Report No. 10-20-15-04

Item 16.8.1 Request for Personal Leave / Unpaid,
HR7969175 was pulled and renumbered as Item 18.1.a

On a motion by Trustee Macias seconded by Trustee Santana and unanimously carried the Classified Personnel Report No. 10-20-15-04 was approved with the exception of agenda item 16.8.1

18.1.a Request for Personal Leave / Unpaid
HR7969175

Vote: 0 Yes 5 No

Certificated Personnel Report No. 10-20-15-04

On a motion by Trustee Santana seconded by Trustee Macias and unanimously carried the Certificated Personnel Report No. 10-20-15-04 was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.