

Unapproved Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Sequoia Union High School District
Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Call to Order	The regular meeting of the Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees was called to order by President Gibson at 4:01 p.m., Wednesday, August 12, 2009, in the Sanford Building at the District Office in Redwood City.
Roll Call	Trustees present: Don Gibson Gordon Lewin Lorraine Rumley Sally Stewart Evan Weiner, Student Trustee (arrived at 5:30 p.m.) Absent: Olivia Martinez, Trustee
Recess to Closed Session at 4:03 p.m.	The Board of Trustees recessed to Closed Session to Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation (Subdivision A of Section 54956.9): Name of Case: The Summit Institute v. SUHSD; Conference with Real Property Negotiator—Agency Negotiator: Patrick Gemma, Property Address: 2555 Pulgas Avenue, East Palo Alto; terms and conditions, and to Conference with Labor Negotiators—Agency Designated Representative: Patrick Gemma; Employee Organizations: SDTA, AFSCME.
Return to Public Session at 5:34 p.m.	The Board of Trustees returned to Public Session at 5:34 p.m.
Invitation to Audience	President Gibson welcomed the audience and explained that the Consent Calendar consisted of routine or previously discussed items to be considered as a unit and voted upon by roll call vote. He explained the Public Comment section of the agenda was for permitting members of the audience to make presentations about items not on the agenda.
Pledge of Allegiance	President Gibson led the Board of Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Approval of Agenda	On a motion by Trustee Lewin, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved the agenda.
Report Out on Closed Session	President Gibson advised that no action was taken during Closed Session.
Amendments to Consent Calendar	Removed and voted upon later in the meeting 8b Report on Subject Matter Competence and Committee on Assignment 8c Approval of Minutes for June 24, 2009, and June 30, 2009, Board Meetings 8g Approval to File Notices of Completion 8i Adoption of Resolution No. 1407, Nominating Senator Joe Simitian as CSBAs 2009 Outstanding Legislator of the Year
Approval of Amended Consent Calendar	On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee Lewin, the Board of Trustees approved the Consent Calendar as amended. Voting “yes” – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Rumley, and Stewart; voting “no” – none; absent: Trustee Martinez. Student Trustee Weiner, “yes.”
Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints as presented.
Approval of Personnel Recommendations	On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved the Personnel Recommendations as presented.

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- Approval of Expulsions On a motion on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees adopted the hearing panel's findings for: (1) (name to appear in official minutes) for the Spring 2008-09 and Fall 2009-10 semesters and that the expulsion be suspended. The student is to remain in the student's current placement and may transfer to another school for the Spring 2009-10 semester, and expelled (2) (name to appear in official minutes) and (3) (name to appear in official minutes) for the Spring 2008-09 and Fall 2009-10 semesters and established December 8, 2009, as the date that the students can apply for readmission and set conditions for readmission to include that the students were satisfactorily involved in educational and counseling programs designed to address the behaviors that led to the expulsions.
- Approval of Warrants Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees approved warrants for the month of June 2009 totaling \$8,255,112.64.
- Authorized Declaring Property as Surplus Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees declared the listed items as surplus property, obsolete and unsuitable for use, and authorized the Superintendent to dispose of the surplus items in accordance with Education Code provisions.
- Report on Subject Matter Comp. & Committee on Assignment Upon roll call vote on the Consent Calendar, the Board of Trustees accepted the Report on Subject Matter Competence and Committee on Assignment as presented.
- Approval of Amended Minutes for 6/24/09, Board Meeting Trustee Stewart recommended the following edits be made to the minutes for June 24, 2009. On Page 6, under "Adoption of Official Budget for 2009-10," following the second paragraph, first sentence, add **"She explained that the District's budget document indicated that the District will end the year with a positive balance and noted that the Board has received that information. The budget document should be a policy statement showing where the District spends its money. Dr. Stewart said that the District does not have a program budget and if it did, we would know what dollars were spent where in our high schools. Trustee Stewart stated that she would vote "no" on Adoption of the Official Budget for 2009-10 because she wanted to see information concerning the dollars spent at our high schools, and she hoped that a program budget would be part of the next updated budget presented for the 2009-10 fiscal year."** In the second to last paragraph from the bottom of Page 6, change to read as follows: **"Trustee Lewin ~~said~~-reiterated, the budget document serves two purposes: . . ."**
- On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved the amended minutes for the June 24, 2009, board meeting.
- Approval of Amended Minutes for 6/30/09, Board Meeting Trustee Stewart recommended the following additions be made to the minutes for June 30, 2009. On Page 2, under "Adoption of Resolution No. 1405, Reservation of Governing Board's Right to Reduce Employee Compensation for 2009-10, Subject to Board's Collective Bargaining Obligations," add the following statements before the fifth paragraph from the bottom of the page, **"Trustee Stewart asked if the cuts would be for all employees including administration and District Office administrators. Superintendent Gemma stated that the budget reductions he had in mind included all employees, districtwide, but that many of these reductions would have to be agreed to at the negotiations table."**
- On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Lewin, the Board of Trustees approved the amended minutes for the June 30, 2009, board meeting.
- Approval to File Notices of Completion Superintendent Gemma announced that the District had completed the project located on the Green Street property and it is an excellent facility. The contractor for the project was superb.
- On a motion by Trustee Lewin, seconded by Trustee Rumley, the Board of Trustees approved filing Notices of Completion for Design Building Systems, Dryco Construction and Liberty Electric.

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Adoption of Res. No. 1407,
Nominating Senator Joe Simitian
as CSBA 2009 Outstanding
Legislator of the Year

Dr. Gemma said that in this time of negativity, Senator Simitian should be recognized for his fine attributes including his support of education, his experience, intelligence and integrity which are all things we want to see in our elected officials.

The entire Board enthusiastically agreed with Superintendent Gemma and unanimously nominated Joe Simitian as CSBA's 2009 Outstanding Legislator of the Year.

On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee Lewin, the Board adopted Resolution No. 1407, Nominating Senator Joe Simitian as CSBA's 2009 Outstanding Legislator of the Year. Voting "yes" – Trustees Gibson, Lewin, Rumley, and Stewart; voting "no" – none; absent: Trustee Martinez. Student Trustee Weiner, "yes."

Special Recognitions

None

Information Items

None

Public Comment

Keith Bautista announced that the Sequoia Awards will be held on March 4, 2010, and this was the 20th year of awarding scholarships to students living in Redwood City. Mr. Bautista requested the principals to help get the word out that the deadline for scholarship applications is the end of September. Campus volunteers will also be recognized at the event. Information can be obtained online at sequoiaawards.org.

Correspondence

None

Discussion of Multi-Year
Projections Based Upon State
Adopted Budget for 2009-10

James Lianides, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, advised that the State had adopted its 2009-10 budget in July, and staff had just recently learned the affect of these revisions on basic aid districts. Budget cuts will not affect basic aid districts in 2008-09, and the cuts the State will make will be \$1.9 million applied in 2009-10. Additionally, our school district will receive a reduction of \$3.44 million, in 2010-11. New information is that the Federal ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) dollars, \$1.4 million, will be applied to offset the budget reduction in 2009-10, so there is a net loss in revenue of \$500,000.

Dr. Lianides reviewed the budget assumptions for the multi-year budget projections and the effect of additional budget reductions on the General Fund ending balance beyond the \$1 million already approved for 2010-11. A key concept is the sooner the cuts are made the more effect they will have on the budget. The Board was requested to give staff direction on how much more to cut in 2009-10 and in 2010-11. Four options were suggested.

Trustee Rumley asked what changes Sacramento might say it needs in order to make further cuts to education. Dr. Lianides replied that he has heard that there is an 80 percent likelihood that the State will make additional cuts mid-year as well as in 2010-11.

Trustee Lewin suggested that the Board anticipates more reductions.

Trustee Stewart said she believes we have a long way to go with unemployment, things may get better and then after a year or two they may fall drastically. Dr. Stewart suggested being conservative.

Student Trustee Weiner agreed, and said that early cuts give us the ability to cut less later on.

President Gibson said that the District will see more cuts and cautioned that the District needs to be somewhat conservative. He would cut \$1.5 million in 2009-10.

Trustee Lewin said we know there will be less money next year, and if we can make a \$1.5 million budget reduction this year there is little risk of overshooting here.

Trustee Rumley said that in past discussions she had been concerned about making too many budget reductions but now she would like to be more conservative and recommended cutting between \$1 and \$1.5 million. Hopefully the District will be in a better position in 2010-11.

Trustee Lewin asked about property tax revenue and a reserve for rebates, Dr. Lianides stated that the revenue is projected at .7 percent. There are 465 pending applications at the County requesting re-evaluation of taxed properties.

Martin Fuentes, Controller, advised that the District will find out from the County Assessor's Office at the end of October what the District will receive in property tax revenue.

Dr. Gemma summarized that what he was hearing from the Board was that staff should bring back a list of tentative budget reductions for 2009-10, which would result in cuts of between \$1 and \$1.5 million; also shown will be tentative reductions for 2010-11 in the amount of \$1 million.

Student Trustee Weiner suggested everyone (including students) taking one or two days off school (without pay) for a long weekend in April or May, which would be a good start toward reducing the 2009-10 budget.

Opened Public Hearing 6:18 p.m. on Bargaining Proposal from Sequoia Adult School Federation of Teachers

President Gibson opened the Public Hearing at 6:18 p.m., to hear comments on the Bargaining Proposal from Sequoia Adult School Federation of Teachers.

Joan Singer, President, Adult School Federation of Teachers, said that the bargaining team was looking forward to discussing its proposal, she expressed her appreciation the Board for its support of the Adult School students and community members who are served by the Adult School.

Closed Public Hearing 6:20 p.m.

President Gibson closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

Board of Trustees/Supt's. Comments & Committee Reports

Trustee Rumley announced that representatives of the Board will welcome the New Teachers tomorrow morning at 8:15 a.m.

Trustee Stewart said she went to a math and science teachers' workshop, where among other things, she learned different ways to encourage students to work together while learning.

Adjournment at 6:21 p.m.

On a motion by Trustee Rumley, seconded by Trustee Lewin, the Board of Trustees adjourned its meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Don Gibson, President

Sally Stewart, Clerk