

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS
DECEMBER 2, 2020**

Convene Open Session

Board President Ranii called this Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance at Meeting

Sheila Coonerty	John Owen	Cindy Ranii	Deb Tracy-Proulx
Jeremy Shonick	Patricia Threet	Claudia Vestal	

Student Board Representative Sophie Nigh

Absent: Student Board Representative Xhu Lopez Guzman

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Dorothy Coito, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Molly Parks, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Jim Monreal, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services
Members of the Audience

Welcome and Format

Board President Ranii welcomed those in attendance and explained the format used for this Special Meeting of the Board of Education.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Munro’s report focused on academic, social-emotional, and attendance interventions and support for students. Her report specifically addressed interventions during distance learning. In October sites began implementing small cohorts and will continue to add more cohorts after winter break. Students participating in small cohorts are high needs students identified through the MTSS screening process. Superintendent Munro also shared the District’s plans to begin credit recovery in the second semester. The District is also looking into ways to add a credit recovery teacher at each high schools’ and to increase participation in the virtual tutoring opportunities. Trustees asked questions and had discussion.

Student’s Report

Student Board Representative Sophie Nigh reported that student Leadership at Soquel High School are continuing their work on safety videos to share with peers around returning to in-person instruction. Soquel High School is also hosting a drive-in movie night at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Board Members' Reports

Trustee Owen did not have a report to share.

Trustee Vestal shared that she is reading grant proposals for the Schools Plus Grant, and the decision for the grant will be made tomorrow. She also reported that she is reading emails from community members and will respond as soon as possible.

Vice President Coonerty shared that she may leave the meeting periodically due to medical reasons. She also reported that she is reading emails from community members and will respond as soon as possible.

Trustee Tracy-Proulx reported attending the CSBA delegate assembly and will share highlights from legislative action with the governance team. She will also be attending the CSBA Annual Education Conference Thursday and Friday. This year the conference is virtual.

Trustee Threet did not have a report to share.

Trustee Shonick shared concern regarding the lack of participation from students during distance learning classes.

Board President's Report

Board President Ranii did not have a report to share.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MSP (Vestal/Owen) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of October 21, 2020 meeting, with a correction to a Trustee's board report.
2. MSP (Coonerty/Vestal) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of October 28, 2020 meeting.
3. MSP (Owen/Coonerty) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of November 4, 2020 meeting, with a corrected typo.
4. MSP (Vestal/Owen) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of November 9, 2020 meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

8.1.1. North Bay Ford Purchase, 8.1.2. Amayas Locating Services, LLC Proposal, 8.1.3. Annual Renewal of Services Agreement: Super Co-Op, 8.1.4 Geo H. Wilson: Mission Hill Middle School Ventilation Repair, 8.1.5. Geo H Wilson: Santa Cruz High School Ventilation Repair, 8.1.6. Geo H. Wilson: Gault Elementary School Ventilation Repair, 8.1.7. Geo H. Wilson: Westlake Elementary School Ventilation Repair, 8.2.1. Development Group Inc: Change Order 3: Branciforte Middle School Network Cabling, 8.2.2. Development Group Inc: Change Order 3: Gault Elementary School Data Installation, 8.2.3. Development Group Inc: Proposal: Westlake Elementary School Network Cabling, 8.2.4. Kleinfelder: Proposal: Geotechnical Services Branciforte Small

Schools Alternative Family Education, 8.2.5. Moore Twining: Proposal: Santa Cruz High School Geotechnical Engineering for New Switchgear, 8.2.6. Moore Twining: Change Order 1: Santa Cruz High School Underground Utility Replacement Special Inspection and Materials Testing, 8.2.7. Netxperts Inc.: Proposal: Districtwide Router Installation Cover, 8.2.8. Nor Cal Catering Truck Repair: Quote: Food Truck Fabrication, 8.2.9. Palace Business Solutions: Proposal: Soquel High School Science Tables, 8.2.10. PSR Electric: Proposal: Branciforte Small Schools Alternative Family Education Electrical Safe Off, 8.2.11. PSR Electric: Proposal: Mission Hill Middle School Switchgear Electrical Work, 8.2.12. PSR Electric: Proposal: Santa Cruz High School Switchgear Electrical Work, 8.2.13. Santa Cruz Signs: Quote: Westlake Elementary School Lift Signage, 8.2.14. Sierra School Equipment: Change Order 1: Soquel High School Classroom Furniture Installation, 8.2.15. Waterproofing Associates: Contract: Harbor High School PA Building Roof

Vice President Coonerty motioned to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Vestal seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Coonerty – Yes	Owen – Yes	Ranii – Yes	
Shonick – Yes	Threet – Yes	Tracy-Proulx – Yes	Vestal – Yes

ITEMS TO BE TRANSACTED AND/OR DISCUSSED

8.4.1.1. New Business: Hybrid Instructional Timeline

On Monday, November 16, Santa Cruz County was moved to the “Widespread” Purple Tier on the State Blueprint for Economic Recovery. When a County is placed in the Purple Tier schools cannot expand in-person instruction to a Hybrid Model.

Over the last several months, staff have worked with community stakeholders to make plans for the potential expansion of in-person instruction in January following Winter Break. The Superintendent’s Reopening Advisory Committee originally recommended that there be two weeks of distance learning following the holiday break to ensure that any potential virus exposures during the holiday period were detected. The committee also recommended that there be a gradual, staggered implementation of Hybrid Instruction to allow for a safe, effective transition with the youngest students beginning first. This will allow students to learn new safety protocols and have a school orientation with fewer students on campus. Given the County’s current Purple Tier Placement, staff cannot outline a specific date and timeline for Hybrid Implementation. However, staff does recommend a plan for a staggered implementation when it is safe to do so. Trustees asked questions and had discussion.

Public Comment: GSCFT President Casey Carlson shared that the union supports the District’s plan to not set a firm date for return and to have a staggered implementation of Hybrid Instruction, stating that teachers will need transition time between distance learning and Hybrid Instruction. President Carlson shared her appreciation for the ventilation assessments and asked the reports to be made available to parents and teachers are soon as they are ready. She also asked for support and partnership to advocate for schools to receive the vaccine as soon as possible.

Public Comment: District teachers and staff shared concerns about transitioning from distance learning to Hybrid Instruction. Some of these concerns included having enough time to prepare before moving back onto campus, adequate facilities, and offering in person services before the vaccine is available.

Public Comment: District parents and community members advocated for schools to move to Hybrid Instruction as soon as possible. Several also expressed concerns about the social emotional needs of students, as well as the increase in failing grades.

Trustee Tracy-Proulx motioned to authorize the superintendent to continue expanding small cohorts on school campuses to the maximum extent possible of students, consistent with the Board adopted reopening plan. Vice President Coonerty seconded the motion.

MSP(Tracy-Proulx/Coonerty) 7-0, the motion was approved.

Trustee Owen motioned to approve an eventual staggered implementation for Hybrid Instruction, as recommended by the Superintendent. Trustee Vestal seconded the motion.

MSP(Owen/Vestal) 7-0, the motion was approved.

Trustee Vestal motioned for the District to move to Hybrid Instruction when the County is officially designated in the Red Tier and have met state safety regulations. Trustee Owen seconded the motion.

MSP(Vestal/Owen) 7-0, the motion was approved.

Vice President Coonerty left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

8.4.2.1. New Business: District and Bond Communications

At the Board Study Session on October 28th, the Board discussed the importance of increasing and improving communication on the Bond. There was also a discussion about the need for communications support districtwide. Staff looked at different job descriptions for Public Information Officers within school districts and contacted different communications firms to determine their ability to support the district. Staff also assessed the costs of hiring an employee vs. contracting services..

Staff recommend a full-time Public Information Officer for several reasons. The demand for communication is high in all areas of the district, especially given the pandemic; the ability to recruit and train a high-quality candidate increases with a full-time employment opportunity; the volume of information that needs to be communicated across the organization is significant; and continuity of communication is invaluable for all stakeholders. Trustees asked questions and had discussion.

Public Comment: Community Member Rocco Cappalla encouraged the District to ensure all were understanding the big picture needs.

Trustee Tracy-Proulx motioned to approve the job description and allow trustees to give input on advertisement for the position. Trustee Vestal seconded the motion.

MSP(Tracy-Proulx/Vestal) 5-1, the motion was approved.

8.4.3.1. Staff Report: Bond Project & Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Reorganization

In November 2016, Measures A & B were passed by voters raising \$208 million to support facilities repairs and modernization in both the elementary and secondary districts. The Board requested staff work to increase and refine communication about Bond projects.

Staff proposed a restructuring of the facilities team to allow for more dedicated support to the Bond program. Staff proposed eliminating the Supervisor Custodial - Grounds - Maintenance and fill the existing vacant job classification of Assistant Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Operations. The position of Assistant Director of Facility Services will support bond projects, oversee day to day maintenance projects, and oversee custodial and grounds maintenance. As proposed, .4 FTE of the Assistant Director will be dedicated to bond projects. In addition, staff propose creating a Lead Custodial position, one to support training, supply ordering, and equipment needs. To ensure sites' needs are met, staff also propose adding an additional .5 FTE custodian. The position is essential to meeting the expectations, deadlines, and fiscal component of all the projects. Trustees asked questions and had discussion. This report was informational in nature and no action was taken by the Board at this time.

Public Comment: Community Member Rocco Cappalla shared he would like to see a true program management of the Bond Program.

8.4.4. Discussion: Potential Items for Futures Agenda

Trustee Shonick requested the District research attendance policies during distance learning, specifically about active engagement in virtual classes. He requested a draft policy be added to a future agenda as soon as possible.

9. Adjournment of Meeting

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Ranii adjourned this Special Meeting at 10:02 p.m.

Board Meeting Schedule Information

1. The Special Meeting on December 2, 2020, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
2. The Regular Meeting on December 15, 2020, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
3. The Regular Meeting on January 13, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
4. The Regular Meeting/Study Session on January 27, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
5. The Regular Meeting on February 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
6. The Regular Meeting on February 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
7. The Regular Meeting on March 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
8. The Regular Meeting on March 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
9. The Regular Meeting on April 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
10. The Regular Meeting/Study Session on April 28, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
11. The Regular Meeting on May 5, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
12. The Regular Meeting/Study Session on May 19, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
13. The Regular Meeting on June 2, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.
14. The Regular Meeting on June 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m., will be held remotely via Zoom.

*For more details about this meeting, please visit our district website and listen to the meeting recording:
http://sccs.net/board_of_education

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Munro, Superintendent
Santa Cruz City Schools

Cynthia Ranii, President
Board of Education