

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Regular Board Meeting  
August 29, 2006**

**M I N U T E S**

Present: Cindy Ruby, Cathie Thermond, Shinku Sharma, Michael Gipe, John Poo

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Cindy Ruby.

**2. Closed Session**

Board members met in Closed Session for:

- 2.1 Personnel Report
- 2.2 Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release
- 2.3 Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Title: Superintendent

**CLOSED SESSION – Personnel, Negotiations, Legal Matters**

Pursuant to State law (Section 54954.2), closed sessions are not open to the public and may only be held for collective bargaining discussion, employment or dismissal of an employee, disciplinary matters relative to student(s) or employee(s), meeting with legal counsel on pending or anticipated litigation, emergency situations, and other exceptions as provided by law, including Government Code sections 54957 and 54957.6.

**3. Open Session**

Board President Cindy Ruby called the meeting into Open Session and announced action taken in Closed Session.

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve the Personnel Report and Personnel Report Addendum.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

**Personnel Report**

**New Hires**

**Stacey Basso** is being recommended for the SDC Aide position at Foothill Elementary School effective August 23, 2006.

**Randy Sweet** is being recommended for the 1 on 1 Aide position at Redwood Middle School effective August 23, 2006.

**Todd Shaff** is being recommended for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher position at Redwood Middle School effective August 21, 2006. Todd comes to SUSD from Campbell Union School District.

**Resignation**

**Cady Burstein**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Teacher at Redwood Middle School who was on leave of absence for the 2005-2006 school year is resigning effective June 30, 2006.

## Personnel Report Addendum

### New Hires

**Steve Odem** is being recommended for the 1 on 1 Aide position at Redwood Middle School effective September 5, 2006.

**Joanne Volpe** is being recommended for the 40% Speech Therapist position, effective August 29, 2006.

Board President Cindy Ruby announced the board took action in a motion made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by John Poo to suspend a certificated employee without pay.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

Board President Cindy Ruby announced that board members will return to Closed Session to continue discussion of Item 2.3 at the end of the meeting.

#### **4. Action/Consent Items**

- \*Approval of Agenda
- \*Approval of Minutes for August 15, 2006
- \*Approval of Gift:  
Reading materials (manga), donated by Andrew Mead, to be housed at Redwood Middle School Library

A motion was made by Michael Gipe and seconded by Cathie Thermond to approve the Action/Consent Items.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

#### **5. Communications**

##### **5.1 Community Comments**

- There were no community comments.

##### **5.2 Comments from Employee Groups**

- There were no comments from employee groups.

##### **5.3 Comments from the Superintendent**

- Superintendent Lane Weiss met with students from Redwood Middle School who are interested in providing support to elementary students during SLCT time through a program they have developed called *Service Above Self*. Students attending the board meeting were: Sedona Speedy, Mikaela Burton, Meera D'Costa, Logan Williams, David Mandell, Nina Mohanty, and Allison Buchanan. Each student shared about their desire to help younger children and to build a stronger community. Redwood Middle School teacher Martin Belles expressed appreciation to the board for taking time to hear about the program.
- Superintendent Weiss thanked the teaching and office staff for a great start for the school year. He thanked board members for hosting the wonderful employee appreciation event which set a great tone for the year.

**5.4 Comments from the Board**

- Board members discussed the employee appreciation event held August 21<sup>st</sup>. Notes for future events will be updated. Receipts should be turned in to Michael Gipe.

**6. Report Items**

**6.1 Enrollment/Staffing Update**

Superintendent Lane Weiss presented an update to the Board on staffing and enrollment for the 2006-07 school year.

- SUSD Enrollment Comparison 2002-06 – current enrollment is 2358, 8/29/06
- 2006-07 Teaching Assignments, 8/29/06
- Superintendent Weiss will report back to the board on any emerging trends.

**7. Actions Items**

**7.1 Budget Update**

Chief Business Official Ellen Tipton presented updated information from the Santa Clara County Assessor's office about 2006-07 property tax revenue. She also reported on the 2005-06 final unaudited ending balance and all other financial summaries for 2005-06.

Documents presented:

- 2005-06 Final Property Tax Data
- 2006-07 Estimate of Property Taxes
- Current 16 page budget document to reflect 2005-06 Unaudited Actuals and 2006-07 Budget with the revised property tax estimate
- 2005-06 General Fund Summary
- 2005-06 Other Funds Summary
- 2005-06 General Fund Income and Categorical Income/Expense Summary
- 2005-06 Comparison of 06/27/06 Estimated Actuals vs. 08/29/06 Unaudited Actuals
- Current Summary of General Fund Income/Expense History and Forecast

Superintendent Lane Weiss and CBO Ellen Tipton presented recommendations from the budget advisory committee from the spring of 2006 and a summary of top priority budget recommendations.

**Top Priority Items – Summary, August 29, 2006**

- Emergency Supplies Range: \$8,000 - \$36,000
- Furniture and equipment – site based \$50,000  
(new one time funding from the state was approved to help with this)
- Instructional Materials – standards aligned \$25,000  
(new one time funding from the state was approved to help with this)
- Supplies for SEF Funded Programs \$40,000  
(new one time funding from the state was approved to help with this)
- Counselor for K-5 Program (intern) \$27,000
- Reading Recovery \$100,000
- Increase tech support (.25 FTE) \$23,000
- Increase instructional technology teacher \$86,000
- Elementary School Vice Principal \$117,000
- Powerschool – Training and Support \$25,000
- Increase School Psychologist from 2.4 to 3.0 FTE \$65,000
- Redwood Middle School Phones Range: \$40,000-\$50,000
- UPS – Power support for Foothill School Range: \$8,000-\$12,000
- Employee Compensation Negotiated Item
- Reserve Fund Contribution TBA

A motion was made by Michael Gipe and seconded by John Poo to approve the funding of emergency supplies by the district and to direct administration to assess current and future emergency supply needs. The motion was amended by Cindy Ruby to add that PTAs be notified to stop fund raising for emergency supplies and to approve up to \$36,000 for the emergency supplies.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

Other immediate needs were discussed. A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Shinku Sharma to increase technology support by .25 FTE, to increase psychologist time by .60 FTE and to purchase a UPS power supply for Foothill School.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

**7.2 Close Public Hearing for Saratoga Union School District and Saratoga Teachers' Association Initial Proposals for Negotiations for 2005-08**

The initial proposal announcing areas of the contract open for negotiations with the Saratoga Teachers' Association was presented on June 27, 2006 and a public hearing was opened by the Board President. This has provided an opportunity for community responses.

A hearing on the Initial Proposal for 2006-2007 compensation (Health and Welfare Benefits only) was held 3/28/06-4/25/06. The tentative agreement on Health and Welfare Benefits was ratified by the Board of Trustees on 5/23/06. The Initial Proposal for compensation (salary) will be presented to the Board and a public hearing will be held in September 2006.

**Initial Proposals for Negotiations for 2005-08**

The Saratoga Union School District and the Saratoga Teachers' Association mutually agree to reopen on the following articles of our current contract (2005-2008):

Article IX	Hours of Employment
Article X	Leaves (sick days, personal necessity days, and paternity leaves)
Article XII	Class Size and Balance (class size guidelines)

The public may send comments or suggestions in writing to Superintendent Lane Weiss or the Board of Trustees at the Saratoga Union School District Office, 20460 Forrest Hills Drive, Saratoga, CA 95070, or via email at [lweiss@saratogausd.org](mailto:lweiss@saratogausd.org) or [board@saratogausd.org](mailto:board@saratogausd.org) about any item in the teachers' contract. The Board will be asked to accept the proposal with any additions.

There were no comments from the public. Board President Cindy Ruby closed the public hearing at 8:31 p.m.

A motion was made by Cathie Thermond and seconded by Michael Gipe to accept the Initial Proposals for Negotiations for 2005-08 as presented.

AYES: Ruby, Thermond, Sharma, Gipe, Poo  
NOES: 0

8. **Report Items**

8.1 **California School Boards Association (CSBA) 2006 Annual Education Conference – November 30 – December 2, 2006**

Board members discussed their interest in attending the CSBA 2006 Annual Education Conference that will be held November 30 – December 2, 2006 in San Francisco. Board members Cindy Ruby, Shinku Sharma and Michael Gipe expressed interest in attending.

8.2 **Board Self Evaluation**

The board received a copy of “The California School Boards Association Professional Governance Standards for School Board Self-Evaluation”. Further discussion will be agendized for a future board meeting.

8.3 **Board Policy Adoption Timeline**

Superintendent Lane Weiss and the board discussed a timeline and process for adopting new board policies and administrative regulations. The board agreed to allocate 30-60 minutes at each board meeting for policy and administrative regulation adoption. If needed, board workshops may be scheduled.

9. **Communications**

9.1 **Community Comments**

- Board member Shinku Sharma thanked Kym Plaing and Patti Wareham for helping with crossing guard duty on the opening days of school.

10. **Future Agenda Items**

The Board discussed items for future agendas.

- Budget – Approval of J200, Reserve Policy
- Open Public Hearing for Instructional Materials
- Resolution for GANN Limit

Next meeting: September 12, 2006

11. **Return to Closed Session**

Board members returned to Closed Session for:

- 2.3 Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Title: Superintendent

12. **Return to Open Session**

Board President Cindy Ruby reported no action was taken in Closed Session.

13. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Clerk of the Board