

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
December 12, 2006**

M I N U T E S

Present: Michael Gipe, Cindy Ruby, Pragati Grover, Jack Chang, Shinku Sharma

1. Call to Order/Open Session/Action Discussion

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Board President Michael Gipe.

2. Spotlight – Early Intervention Task Force and SDC Preschool

The special education team highlighted changes in the preschool as a result of studying best practice and collaborative partnership between staff and parents. Members of the intervention task force include:

Louise Levy	Assistant Superintendent
Andrew Shahan	Consultant
Erin Bacon	Behavior/Inclusion Specialist
Dawn Yoshinaga	Psychologist
Rosanna Lee	SDC Pre-School Teacher
Dawn Greenberg	Speech/Language Therapist
Loy Leveroni	Speech/Language Therapist
Marie Geers	Occupational Therapist
Kathy Thorwalson	Parent of three year old; new to the program this year

3. Action/Consent Items

- 3.1 Approval of Agenda
- 3.2 Approval of Minutes for November 28, 2006
- 3.3 Approval of Personnel Report for December 12, 2006
- 3.4 Approval of Warrants for November 2006
- 3.5 Approval of 2005-06 Audit Report
- 3.6 Acceptance of Recommendation for Redwood Middle School Lunch Table Replacement Bid

A motion was made by Shinku Sharma and seconded by Cindy Ruby to approve the Action/Consent Items.

AYES: Gipe, Ruby, Grover, Chang, Sharma

NOES: 0

4. Communications

- 4.1 Community Comments
 - Katherine Tseng said that as a parent she is interested in having a math road map for 6th and 7th graders; she hears many middle school parents comment that a clear road map is necessary. She is pleased that the district has had the opportunity to focus on math this year.
- 4.2 Comments from Employee Groups
 - There were no comments from employee groups.

4.3 Comments from the Superintendent

Superintendent Weiss made the following comments:

- Superintendent Weiss provided an update on Redwood Middle School math; interviews were conducted for new 1 FTE approved by board for the remainder of school year; he is receiving feedback from parents via telephone and e-mail; Superintendent Weiss and Principal Polito have been engaging in dialogue with other school districts as well as getting feedback from Saratoga High School and other high school districts regarding best practice in this area; they are also working on the best way to communicate with the parents and community; there is a lot of planning for this year and years to come.
- thanked Shinku Sharma, Cindy Ruby, Pragati Grover, district parents and teachers for attending Dr. Ruth Parker's presentation on December 5th; he is working on bringing Dr. Parker back in February as well as offering a summer course for parents and children.
- will continue to advocate for board goal #1: promote a district culture of mutual respect, integrity, and equity.
- attended two concerts by Redwood Middle School students; sold out, standing room only, wonderful job; thanks to Vicki Wyant, RMS staff, and parents
- attended a wonderful performance of *The Velveteen Rabbit* presented by Foothill students last Saturday
- annual holiday caroling tour - community outreach project will be tomorrow
- gave special thanks to Faithe Liu, SEF and PTA for working to sort out one-time monies; Faithe has been terrific trying to sort out the planning
- now planning for 2007-08 SEF major grant
- CSBA Conference – several board members were able to attend; interesting and helpful themes included: building a strong, effective governance team; what learning looks like in the 21st Century; legal issues and legislation; funding education at an adequate level; negotiations; use of technology and data; building teamwork in your community
- CSBA Masters in Governance program – locally offered program on Saturdays, over two year time; training in many different areas; information will be sent to the board soon

4.4 Comments from the Board

Shinku Sharma made the following comments:

- attended Redwood PTA Meeting last Tuesday; thanked Diane Clement for hosting it; lengthy discussion about Redwood Musical; first 100 kids would get a number; would come to turn in their paperwork; within first 5 minutes all spots were taken; over past years 60-70 children participated; numbers have increased to around 130-140; with musicals at elementary schools and increased interest has been developed; wants board to look at what can be done for all students who want to participate can; can't get a spot after the first 100 kids have been signed up; lengthy discussion about how to do this next year
- thanked Superintendent Weiss, Beth Polito and Mardi Kambish for their work on math; really enjoyed Dr. Ruth Parker's presentation
- received a call today from a parent who wanted a "math map" for 6th and 7th grade

Michael Gipe made the following comments:

- said that the board had an excellent CSBA conference and many board members were able to attend
- learned that even boards need 3-D success; including all portions of the curriculum; need more singing, dancing and entertaining

5. **Action/Discussion Items**

5.1 **Redwood Middle School Counseling Plan – Grades 7 and 8**

Superintendent Lane Weiss and Principal Beth Polito introduced the Redwood Middle School counseling plan as required by the state department of education. This plan will allow Saratoga Union School District and Redwood Middle School to access state funding for additional counseling services at grades 7 and 8.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Shinku Sharma to approve the Redwood Middle School counseling plan.

AYES: Gipe, Ruby, Grover, Chang, Sharma
NOES: 0

5.2 **Community Request to Designate Oak Street as a Heritage Lane**

Superintendent Lane Weiss updated the board on the request from a group of community members who requested board support in designating as a Heritage Lane.

Kathleen Casey, community group member, handed out information regarding Heritage Preservation guidelines; a letter from the Board should be addressed to the City Council; nothing in planning can prevent a neighbor from making changes to their property; one neighbor chose not to sign on to the Heritage Lane plan for Oak Street. Any changes to the property can be made, as far as she understands it.

Michael Gipe requested that a written outline be provided by the City for Board approval.

Cindy Ruby asked about how the designation would affect the neighbors/homeowners of the Saratoga Elementary School neighborhood.

Superintendent Weiss will be talking with City of Saratoga officials for clarification.

5.3 **Budget Reserve Update**

Superintendent Lane Weiss updated the board on information from School Services of California and presented scenarios indicating when the reserve would be used.

5.4 **Approval of Assignments for Teachers in Accordance with Education Code Section 44258.3**

In order to comply with Education Code 44258.3 and Board Policy 2225, teachers whose credentials do not fully cover the subject matter they teach at the middle school may comply under certain Education Code sections. Board approval is requested to bring the District into full compliance. These teachers have given their consent to their assignments for the 2006-07 school year.

Education Code Section 44258.2 Single Subject Teaching Credential

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Authorization Needed</u>
Elizabeth Belles	7 th Grade Core	English
Marie Bordeleau	8 th Grade Core	English
James Conn	8 th Grade Core	English
Christine DeCaporale	7 th Grade Core	Social Science
Pam Demertzis	7 th Grade Core	Social Science
Jason Engilis	Video	Arts
Patience Fielding	6 th Grade Core	Social Science
Alexis Nesper	8 th Grade Core	English

Education Code Section 44256(b) Multiple Subject Teaching Credential

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Authorization Needed</u>
Denyelle Chapman	6 th Grade Science	Science
Mardi Kambish	6 th Grade Math	Math

A motion was made by Shinku Sharma and seconded by Cindy Ruby to approve Assignments for Teachers in Accordance with Education Code Section 44258.3.

AYES: Gipe, Ruby, Grover, Chang, Sharma
NOES: 0

5.5 Calendar Update

Superintendent Lane Weiss reviewed calendar information for SUSD and from the Los Gatos – Saratoga Joint Union High School District for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 school years. A calendar committee will be formed.

5.6 Board Policy Revision – 2000 Series – Administration

Superintendent Lane Weiss distributed draft copies of the 2000 series of board policies. First reading of these policies will be scheduled for the January 9, 2007 board meeting.

6. Selection of Trustee to Vote to Fill Vacancies for the County Committee on School District Organization

California Education Code 35023 requires that the governing board of each school district select one of its members to vote in the election for members of the County Committee on School District Organization. The Board President selected Cindy Ruby.

7. Board Discussion of District Committee Representation

The Board discussed representatives for district committees. Michael Gipe requested that the board members select committees to serve on and he will coordinate representatives.

Shinku Sharma suggested that a Math Committee membership should be added.

The Board requested a new committee assignment handout for the Board’s use in 2007.

8. Communications

8.1 Community Comments

There were no comments from the community.

9. Adjourn to Closed Session

Board members adjourned to Closed Session for:

9.1 Certificated Negotiations: Confer with Labor Negotiator Lane Weiss (Govt. §Code 3549.1)

10. Return to Open Session

The Board President called the meeting into Open Session and announced no action was taken in Closed Session.

11. Future Agenda Items

The Board discussed items for future agendas. Next meeting: January 9, 2007.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Clerk of the Board