

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SARATOGA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
January 23, 2007**

M I N U T E S

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

1. **Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Michael Gipe. The public was given the opportunity to make community comments on any item on the closed session agenda.

There were no comments from the community.
2. **Closed Session**
Board members met in Closed Session for:
2.1 Personnel Report
2.2 Conference with Labor Negotiator Lane Weiss-
3. **Open Session**
Board President Michael Gipe called the meeting into Open Session and announced action taken in Closed Session.

Personnel Report

New Hire

Akshay Aanabathula is being recommended for the Safety Patrol position at Argonaut Elementary School effective January 9, 2007.

Katrina Smith is being recommended for the Substitute Cross Guarding position effective January 11, 2007.

Leave of Absence

Connie Weber, 3rd Grade Teacher at Foothill Elementary School is requesting a child rearing leave effective February 5, 2007 to May 18, 2007.

Resignation

Lety Dutro, Language Center Aide at Saratoga Elementary School resigned effective January 3, 2007.

Personnel Report Addendum

New Hire

Vicky Gochnauer is being recommended for the Math teaching position at Redwood Middle School effective January 29, 2007.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Pragati Grover to approve the Personnel Report.

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

4. **Action/Consent Items**

4.1 Approval of Agenda

4.2 Approval of Minutes for January 9, 2007 - Organizational and Regular Meeting

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

5. **Communications**

5.1 **Community Comments**

There were no comments from the community.

5.2 **Comments from Employee Groups**

There were no comments from employee groups.

5.3 **Comments from the Superintendent**

- Superintendent Lane Weiss thanked the many special guests for coming this evening. He really appreciates having students present to comment on programs funded by SEF and the support of parents and SEF members.
- On January 20, 2007 board members Mike Gipe, Cindy Ruby and Superintendent Weiss attended the Masters in Governance program sponsored by CSBA. Superintendent Weiss commented that the material presented was very appropriate for the type of work they do and feels that they will be learning many valuable things that they will pass on to other board members.
- Superintendent Weiss also won a door prize at the event, which was a book written by George Washington entitled *Rules of Civility*.
- SUSD's Professional Development Day was held on January 19, 2007. At the District Leadership Team meeting on January 22nd, teachers and principals reviewed the work done on January 19th. All items on the agendas were aligned with Board Goals. Superintendent Weiss said that he was very pleased with how the day went at each school site.
- The District Leadership Team had a very productive meeting on January 22, 2007. Superintendent Weiss anticipates being able to share the results of curriculum mapping with the board in the near future.
- Superintendent Weiss congratulated Redwood Middle School students on the many awards that were won at a recent area math competition.

5.4 **Comments from the Board**

- Mike Gipe seconded the Superintendent's comments regarding the Masters in Governance program. He felt that the information given throughout the entire day will be very valuable.
- Cindy Ruby said that she learned new information at the Masters in Governance program and looks forward to sharing this information at the board workshop in February.

6. **Action/Report Items**

6.1 **Approval of the Consolidated Application, Part II**

Assistant Superintendent Louise Levy and Chief Business Official Ellen Tipton presented the Consolidated Application, Part II for Board approval.

A motion was made by Cindy Ruby and seconded by Pragati Grover to approve the Consolidated Application, Part II.

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

6.2 **Public Hearing for Saratoga Union School District and the Saratoga Teachers' Association Initial Proposals for Negotiations**

A public hearing was opened by Board President Michael Gipe at 7:03 p.m. The Saratoga Teachers' Association (STA) presented the district with a demand to bargain. They wish to "bargain the impacts and effects of the CLAD requirement in its effect on the working conditions of STA members". The public hearing will be closed on February 13, 2007.

6.3 **Board of Trustees, SUSD Staff, Saratoga Education Foundation and Community Collaboration Planning Meeting**

• **Introduction/Purpose/Overview**

Superintendent Weiss welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the purpose of the meeting is to collect thoughts and ideas about programs sponsored by the Saratoga Education Foundation (SEF) and also to celebrate the work that SEF does in supporting students in SUSD.

• **Board Goals/SEF Criteria**

Superintendent Weiss introduced SEF Board President Terrie Creamer. Terrie Creamer reviewed the Major Grant Criteria for SEF and presented an overview of programs that are funded by SEF.

Superintendent Weiss presented an overview of funding coming from the State of California.

<u>Program</u>	<u>Entitlement</u>	<u>On going or One time</u>
SSBG (school site block grant)	\$140,555	One time
SDBG (school district block grant)	\$47,453	One time
Middle School Counselor	\$45,000	On going
Arts, Music, P.E.	\$196,226	One time
Arts & Music Block Grant	\$38,144	On going
Instructional Materials, Library Materials & Education Technology	\$37,953	One time
Total	\$505,331	One time Total: \$422,187 On going Total: \$83,144

Saratoga Education Foundation President Terrie Creamer presented the board with a check for \$1,067,613.00 on behalf of the Saratoga Education Foundation.

• Table Talk Brainstorming/Program Quality and Enhancement

Parents, students, teachers, administrators and board members worked in groups to discuss what is going well with current programs and to capture new ideas. A recorder at each table filled out a Table Talk Summary and representatives from each table were asked to share highlights and ideas generated during the discussion period.

Redwood Middle School students Mishi Maniar, Amanda Jeng and Sanjna Verma shared the following ideas:

- Funding a recycling program to enhance the existing program already in place. Funds would be necessary to increase the number of bins available for bottles and aluminum cans as well as the amount of custodial support.
- A Laptop Program, where each student had use of a laptop (purchased by parents). Personnel would be necessary to support student training. Software would need to be purchased for use by all students. SEF scholarships could also be available to support students who would need financial aid with the program. Also, all teachers should have access to a laptop, with PowerSchool loaded onto each machine.
- Electives: Study Hall Elective; Sports Elective (instead of after school program); Choir Elective (students want to take honor chorus but not during lunchtime)
- An increase in the number of hours for library aides (from 30 to 40 hours) as well as more books and money to fund the library.

Students from Argonaut Elementary School shared the following ideas:

- There should be a balance between time and money spent on computers vs. music.
- There should be an increase in the amount of science time with Lawrence Hall of Science programs.
- A full time counselor should be in place at each elementary school site.

Vice Principal Jason Robertson and Redwood Middle School student Nina Mohanty shared the following ideas:

- A peer counseling program should be considered, with high school students counseling middle school students and providing valuable intercampus information. Training would be needed for this program.
- Students feel that increased library hours are necessary for after school study. An increase in supervisors would be needed for this, which could range from simple supervision to tutoring help, etc.

Saratoga Elementary School student Annelise Nussbacher shared the following ideas:

- An elementary school counselor should be available at each site for kids to talk to, express their feelings and frustrations and so on.
- The music program should have a “music teacher toolbox” set up for when substitute teachers are required. Students can still have good lessons even when there is a substitute.
- A reading recovery program could provide early reading intervention to help students who get behind in reading, which affects all curriculum areas. An area in the classroom could be established where one-on-one reading help could take place.

Foothill Elementary School principal Nancy Ondrejka shared the following ideas:

- An increase in computer lab time in 4th and 5th grade
- Having visual and performing arts every year for ½ a year, instead of the current rotation.

7. **Communications**

7.1 **Community Comments**

There were no comments from the community.

8. **Future Agenda Items**

The Board discussed items for future agendas.

The Board Workshop is scheduled for February 2, 2007. Superintendent Weiss and board members are considering using a business place in town for this meeting. Possible agenda items include:

- Governance standards
- Board self-review process
- *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team*
- CSBA workshop learning

Superintendent Weiss will work with Michael Gipe to design an agenda for this workshop.

Regular Meeting future agenda items include:

Closed Session:	Recommendation for permanent status
Open Session:	<u>Spotlight:</u> <i>Masters in Governance Program</i> Budget update Resolution: TRAN Board Policy – vote for approval on 2000 series Developer Fee Study

Next meeting: February 13, 2007
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Conference Room
Start time is 5:00 p.m.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Clerk of the Board