

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE SANTA CRUZ CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FOR THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY DISTRICTS  
December 13, 2023**

**Convene Closed Session**

Board President Owen called this Closed Session Meeting to order at 5:04p.m.

**Public Comments for Closed Session Agenda Items**

None

Sheila Coonerty left the Board Meeting at 6:38p.m.

**Convene Open Session**

Board President Owen called this Regular Meeting Open Session to order at 6:40 p.m.

**Attendance at Meeting**

|             |                 |                 |                |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| John Owen   | Patricia Threet | Angela Meeker   | Kevin Grossman |
| Kyle Kelley | Claudia Vestal  | Sheila Coonerty |                |

Student Board Representative, Matthew Simon

Student Board Representative, Jimena Vazquez Veloz

Student Board Representative, Zach Von Worley

Dorothy Coito, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

Jim Monreal, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

Kris Munro, Superintendent

Molly Parks, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Members of the Audience

**Welcome and Format**

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

**3.3 Agenda Changes, Additions, or Deletions**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Munro began her report by sharing that much had happened since the last Board meeting on November 8th. Staff has implemented a new math intervention curriculum, and a clear the air event occurred where students were empowered to say no to tobacco vaping and cannabis, amongst other informative events. Ms. Munro shouted out the Soquel Knights, who are State Football Champions, and said that she was excited that students are being connected to school through sports. Ms. Munro shared that staff attended the

Breaking Barriers conference in Sacramento to gain more skills and knowledge regarding supporting student mental health. Ms. Munro concluded her report by sharing that Bay View held their “Flip the Switch” event to turn on their new solar panel parking lot shade structures and was pleased that SCCS remains committed to green practices.

### **Student’s Report**

Student Board Representative Simon met with the Principal’s Advisory Committee along with the President of the Queer Straight Alliance Club where they had good conversation and ideas surrounding supporting queer students at school to make sure they feel welcome. Soquel will be holding a “Cocoa and Cram” study hall with hot chocolate for freshmen which helps kids to connect and tutor each other. Mr. Simon enjoyed the CSBA Conference in San Francisco where he was able to network and meet other student trustees from across the state. Mr. Simon concluded by sharing that Soquel won the state football championships so the school is in high spirits.

Student Board Representative Vazquez Veloz shared that Harbor’s emotional support counselor offered a mindfulness group for students who wanted extra support with prep work during finals week to help relieve stress and anxiety. Ms. Vazquez Veloz shared that spirit week was coming up with a pajama day along with other fun holiday activities such as hot chocolate for students, a “snowball” fight, karaoke and more. Ms. Vazquez Veloz concluded her report by sharing that her time at the CSBA conference was valuable in that she was able to meet other student trustees and learn about how their school district is different from SCCS.

Student Board Representative Von Worley agreed with Mr. Simon and Ms. Vazquez Veloz saying that the CSBA conference was exciting with around 90-120 other student trustees from across the state in attendance. He felt that the conference shined a light onto how well and forward thinking SCCS is compared to other districts in the state. Mr. Von Worley went on to share that the Santa Cruz Dance Team held a showcase where Aptos High did a guest performance alongside them. Mr. Von Worley concluded by sharing that there is a blood drive currently and that the Winter Band Concert will follow the Jazz and Choir concerts from earlier in the week.

## **BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS**

### **Board Members’ Reports**

Trustee Meeker discussed attending the CSBA Conference in San Francisco where she said she had a lot of opportunities to engage with people from other districts, and noted that SCCS is lucky to be in such a collaborative community. Ms. Meeker attended a keynote on social justice and opportunities for healing which she found to be particularly informative. Ms. Meeker also recently toured DeLaveaga and attended the “Flip The Switch” event at Bay View. Trustee Meeker concluded her report by commending the Wellness Committee for their seamless integration of knowledge and what the needs of students and staff are in their meetings and goals.

Trustee Kelley shared that he also attended the “Flip The Switch” event where students were delighted to see the solar panels turned on. Mr. Kelley shared that he also attended the Winter Choral Concert at Santa Cruz High where he saw Trustee Grossman’s child perform, saying it was a fantastic concert. Trustee Kelley then shared that he presented at the CSBA Conference along with David Kline, Erin Asamoto, and Shannon Calden on Chat GPT as a tool for teaching and learning. He said that they stressed that teaching technology should be reflective not reactive, and teaching responsibility while encouraging curiosity and critical thinking. Mr. Kelley thanked Superintendent Munro for moderating the presentation and said he was very grateful to have been able to attend.

Trustee Threet shared that it was affirming to see where SCCS is as a district while she attended the CSBA Conference. Ms. Threet shared that the AI presentation given by Trustee Kelley and colleagues was packed and

applauded Mr. Kelley for informing people well. Trustee Threet said she was pleased to see that the Board and the District are being responsive to the needs of our current world. Ms. Threet then shared a big congratulations to the Soquel High football team for winning the State Championships. She said that Soquel had a ceremony to celebrate the team that was attended by CSBW, the Santa Cruz Sentinel, Senator John Laird, representatives of Dawn Addis and Gail Pellegrin and that County Superintendent Farris Sabah declared the day as Soquel High Football Day. She said it takes a village for such a big feat and was looking forward to the possibility of a parade in Soquel Village to truly congratulate and celebrate the team.

Trustee Grossman began his report by congratulating the Soquel High Knights for their big win. Mr. Grossman also attended the CSBA Conference where there were around 5,000 school board members from across California in attendance. He commended Trustee Kelley and the other presenters for a fantastic session on AI. Mr. Grossman attended the combined choral event for Mission Hill Middle and Santa Cruz High saying it was a tremendous night of singing and that he was proud of his youngest child for participating in the Gold Choir. Mr. Grossman concluded his report by sharing that he attended the Bay View “Flip The Switch” event where he asked the students who likes technology and they all cheered enthusiastically.

Trustee Coonerty shared that she did not have much to report as she was unable to attend many of the events mentioned. Ms. Coonerty said that would have particularly liked to hear Trustee Kelley’s presentation on AI and was proud to see that SCCS was able to represent themselves well at the conference. Ms. Coonerty concluded by saying that was also incredibly proud of Soquel High for winning the State Championship and congratulated them for the historic win.

Trustee Vestal shared the successes and challenges of the Wellness Committee, saying that there are good changes coming such as lowering the amount of sugar in food. Ms. Vestal shared that she attended several sessions around mental health and support for homeless families at the CSBA Conference and was pleased to see that the District is already offering many of the recommended programs. Trustee Vestal then shared that Delta High School is moving locations because Cabrillo will be building student housing at their current site but that the new space on upper campus will be a very nice improvement to the portables they are currently in. Ms. Vestal concluded her report by congratulating the Soquel High football team, saying how fun it has been to see everyone’s excitement over the win.

### **Board President’s Report**

Board President Owen shared that he was unable to attend CSBA due to another commitment, but was proud of his team of Trustees for representing the District so well. Mr. Owen offered his congratulations to Soquel High for their win at the State Football Championships. Mr. Owen concluded his report saying that the evening concluded his term of office as President of the Board, saying that it has been incredibly fulfilling and he appreciates all that staff and admin have done for him and that he would be happy to serve again in the future.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. MSP (Threet/Grossman) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of September 27, 2023 Meeting.
2. MSP (Vestal/Kelley) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of October 11, 2023 Meeting.
3. MSP (Kelley/Meeker) 7-0, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of November 1, 2023 Meeting.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **Closed Session Items**

#### **Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session**

1. Ms. Coito provided an update to and received direction from Trustees regarding the Final Special Education Settlement Agreement. Vote 7-0.
2. Ms. Parks shared information with the Board on Certificated/Classified/Management Leaves, Retirements, Resignations & Appointments. Vote 7-0.
3. Ms. Parks shared information with the Board regarding Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaints.
4. Ms. Parks provided an update to and received direction from Trustees regarding negotiations with the GSCFT.
5. Ms. Parks provided an update to the Trustees regarding negotiations with the SCCCE.

### **ITEMS TO BE TRANSACTED AND/OR DISCUSSED**

#### **8.2.2.1 New Business: Vision 2030 Committee Report**

Superintendent Munro introduced Consultant Lisa Fraser, who facilitated the committee process, to present the Vision 2030 Committee Report. In 2022, FCMAT, the State's Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, projected a 17% decline in enrollment for Santa Cruz County Schools. In the spring of 2023, the Superintendent convened the SCCS Vision 2030 Committee composed of staff and families from each site to make recommendations for how the District uses resources to best serve students given projected declining enrollment over the next decade. During the course of the spring, new information was released about Santa Cruz County's sixth Regional Housing Needs Assessment and the City of Santa Cruz provided District staff with detailed plans on the City's housing development over the next five years. In addition, by May, spring enrollment for the 2023-24 school year came in higher than anticipated. These factors resulted in a shift in direction for the committee. Superintendent Munro took recommendations from the Energy Savings Subcommittee and Revenue Generation Subcommittee to present for approval to the Board. Trustees asked questions and had discussion. Superintendent Munro recommended approval of the Vision 2030 Report and Recommendations. Trustees discussed the process and recommendations.

Jody Kropholler, Co-President for GSCFT, made a public comment stating that he was a member of the Vision 2030 Committee and shared that Lisa Fraser did a great job of making the process smooth. Mr. Kropholler noted what a great change of events it was that the District has moved from declining enrollment to exploring revenue generation.

Trustee Grossman motioned to accept the recommendations from the Vision 2030 Committee. Trustee Coonerty seconded the motion.

MSP (Grossman /Coonerty) 7-0, the Board of Education voted to approve the recommendations from the Vision 2030 Committee.

#### **8.2.2.2 New Business: Boundary Change Proposal**

Superintendent Munro presented the Boundary Change Proposal. On November 1, 2023, there was a Board Study Session on Strategic Financial Planning and Managing Population Growth. At the Study Session, staff presented information on planned development in the City and County and the potential impacts on school enrollment. Planned housing development in the City of Santa Cruz that will likely create unbalanced enrollment in our schools. Staff reviewed housing development in the City, provided information on the Regional Housing Needs Allocation for the County of Santa Cruz, and shared planned housing development at the UCSC. Staff presented a plan for school boundary changes that will better balance enrollment given planned

development. Superintendent Munro recommended approval of the Boundary Change Proposal. Trustees asked questions and had discussion.

Matt Bruner made a public comment speaking as a community member and a teacher. Mr. Bruner stressed the importance of working to communicate new boundary changes to the community.

Trustee Coonerty motioned to accept the Boundary Change Proposal. Trustee Grossman seconded the motion.

MSP (Coonerty /Grossman) 7-0, the Board of Education voted to approve the Boundary Change Proposal.

### **8.2.2.3**

#### **New Business: First Interim Report**

Assistant Superintendent Monreal presented the District's First Interim Report. Mr. Monreal reported that the District requires positive certification to certify that the District will meet its financial obligations for the current year, and two subsequent fiscal years. Mr. Monreal presented the adjustments in both revenues and expenditures made to the budget since adoption in June 2023. The Governor's 2024-25 Budget proposal will be available in January 2024, and the Second Interim Report will be due in March 2024. Assistant Superintendent Monreal recommended approval of the 2023-24 First Interim Report with a Positive Certification.

Matt Bruner, Co-President of GSCFT, spoke on behalf of the federation saying it was great to see such a healthy budget illustrating how the District has weathered the challenges of massive inflation. Mr. Bruner stated that they know there are a lot of priorities in front of the Board, noting that GSCFT was happy to be a partner in maintaining fiscal solvency.

Trustee Vestal motioned to approve the First Interim Report. Trustee Grossman seconded the motion.

MSP (Vestal /Grossman) 7-0, the Board of Education voted to approve the Boundary Change Proposal.

### **8.2.2.4**

#### **New Business: Bogard Construction Design Agreement for Educator Housing Project**

Assistant Superintendent Monreal introduced the Bogard Construction Design Agreement for the Educator Housing Project. This summer the District had five responders to the Request for Qualification (RFQ) package to partner with SCCS for the Alternate Design Build Educator Workforce Housing project. Interviews were held and a Request for Proposal (RFP) was provided to three proposers from the original five that responded to the RFQ. Staff and the Board's Housing Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the RFPs and conducted interviews with each of the three groups. Bogard Construction was selected through the interview process. Staff recommends that the Alternative Design contract be awarded to Bogard Construction as the best value proposal. Assistant Superintendent Monreal recommended approval of the Bogard Construction Design Agreement for Educator Housing Project. Trustees asked questions and had discussion.

Trustee Threet motioned to approve the Bogard Construction Design Agreement for Educator Housing Project. Trustee Grossman seconded the motion.



Construction Services, Inc.: Proposal: Santa Cruz High School Rematriation Site Work, 8.5.5 BSN Sports: Quote: Harbor High School Gym Wall Padding, 8.5.6 Colbi Technologies, Inc.: Amendment Agreement 1: Quality Bidders Software, 8.5.7 Coulter Construction, Inc.: Proposal: Anchor Bracket Fabrication, 8.5.8 CRW Industries, Inc.: Change Order 1: Santa Cruz High School Baseball Backstop Reconstruction, 8.5.9 Development Group Inc.: Proposal: Branciforte Small Schools Vape Detectors and Camera, 8.5.10 Dilbeck & Sons Inc.: Quote: Mission Hill Middle School New Door Installation, 8.5.11 First Serve Productions Inc.: Change Order 1: Santa Cruz High School Tennis Court Rehab, 8.5.12 Geo H Wilson: Agreement: Soquel High School Boiler Replacement, 8.5.13 M3 Environmental: Change Order 2: Santa Cruz High School C & D Modernization Abatement Oversight Services, 8.5.14 Strawn Construction, Inc.: Change Order 2: Mission Hill Middle School Envelope Improvements

Trustee Grossman motioned to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Coonerty seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

|                                     |              |              |                |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Roll Call Vote:</b> Meeker – Yes | Kelley – Yes | Threet – Yes | Grossman – Yes |
| Coonerty – Yes                      | Vestal – Yes | Owen – Yes   |                |

Student Trustee Simon abstained from a vote on this matter.

Student Trustee Vazquez Veloz recommended a yes vote on this matter.

Student Von Worley recommended a yes vote on this matter.

#### **8.2.4.2 Moved for Further Discussion: New Business: Annual Board Reorganization**

Superintendent Munro thanked Vice President Threet for her service during the past year as Vice President to the Board of Education and let Board President Owen know that she had a plaque for him that had not yet arrived to thank and recognize his service as Board President from December 2022 to December 2023. Superintendent Munro reported that each year in December, the Board of Education elects a Board President, Vice President and Clerk of the Board in accordance with Board Bylaw 9100. Superintendent Munro discussed the roles and duties of the President and Vice President, and shared past practice has been to appoint the Superintendent as Secretary/Clerk of the Board of Education. The Board asked questions of one another and had discussion.

Trustee Threet motioned to nominate Trustee Vestal as Board President, and to nominate Trustee Grossman as Board Vice President.

MSP(Threet/Owen) 7-0, the Board of Education appointed Trustee Vestal as Board President, and Trustee Grossman as Board Vice President.

Trustee Coonerty motioned to nominate Superintendent Munro as Secretary of the Board.

MSP(Coonerty/Owen) 7-0, the Board of Education appointed Superintendent Munro as Secretary of the Board.

#### **8.6 Discussion: Possible Items for Future Meeting Agendas**

None

#### **9. Adjournment of Meeting**

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Education, Board President Owen adjourned this Regular Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

### **Board Meeting Schedule Information**

1. The Regular Board Meeting on January 17, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
2. The Study Session on January 31, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
3. The Regular Board Meeting on February 14, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
4. The Regular Board Meeting on February 28, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
5. The Regular Board Meeting on March 13, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
6. The Regular Board Meeting on March 27, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
7. The Regular Board Meeting on April 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
8. The Study Session on April 24, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
9. The Regular Board Meeting on May 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
10. The Study Session on May 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
11. The Regular Board Meeting on May 29, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public remotely via Zoom.
12. The Regular Board Meeting on June 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m., at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, and will be broadcast to the public 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](http://sccs.net/board_of_education)

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Munro, Superintendent  
Santa Cruz City Schools

John Owen, President  
Board of Education