Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday March 7, 2019
4:00 p.m.
Board Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

   Board Present
   Rose Filicetti
   Sandra Nichols
   Sue Roth
   Dana Sales
   Abel Sanchez
   Bruce Van Allen
   Faris Sabbah (Secretary)

   Staff Present
   Jivan Dhaliwal
   Jean Gardner
   Sage Leibenson

   Absent
   Jane Royer Barr

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

   Superintendent Sabbah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

   Agenda deletions and/or changes of sequence will be approved or the agenda will be approved as submitted.

   It was M.S.C. (Roth/Nichols) to approve the agenda.

   Ayes: Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sales, Sanchez, Van Allen
   Nays: None
   Abstain: None
   Absent: Barr
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Sales allotted time for public comment within agenda item 5.1.

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS, NEW BUSINESS, AND ACTION ITEMS**

5.1. **Integrative Leadership Academy (Resolution 19-01 or 19-02)**

**Introduction of Item by Board President**

President Sales addressed the Board and Public to explain how the agenda item would be conducted prior to the vote to either conditionally approve (Resolution 19-01) or deny (Resolution 19-02) the petition for the creation of a charter school in San Lorenzo Valley (Integrative Leadership Academy).

**Overview and Introduction of Legal Counsel**

Superintendent Sabbah provided an overview of the review process and introduced Devon Lincoln, Partner, Lozano Smith, Attorneys at Law as the COE’s legal counsel.

**Presentation by Counsel**

Ms. Lincoln explained the legal context and fifteen required elements of a charter petition, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Review Team’s process and rubric, grounds for denial of a charter petition, and recommendations from staff.

Ms. Lincoln explained that the Review Team determined the charter petition was insufficient in the following areas: unsound educational program, demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition, petition does not contain all affirmations required under the Education Code, and the petition does not include reasonably comprehensive descriptions of required elements under Education Code. The Review Team recommended the Board deny the charter petition on these grounds.

Ms. Lincoln concluded her presentation by introducing the two resolutions presented before the Board. Resolution 19-01 would conditionally approve the Integrative Leadership Academy contingent on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would need to be negotiated between the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, the County Superintendent of Schools, and the Integrative Leadership Academy. Alternatively, Resolution 19-02 would deny the charter petition based on the findings of fact set forth in the Staff Report. Ms. Lincoln also explained that the Board has a third option to take no action regarding the petition, which would be considered a denial by default.

The Board then had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions about Ms. Lincoln’s presentation.

**Comments on the Charter Petition**

Dr. Nicky-Ramos Beban, lead petitioner for the Integrative Leadership Academy, gave a brief presentation on the charter petition. Superintendent Laurie Bruton of the San Lorenzo Unified School District (SLVUSD), was allotted an equivalent amount of time to present the District’s views of the petition.
Following statements by the petitioner and school district, President Sales invited teachers, employers, parents, guardians, or any other member of the public to speak on this matter. The following individuals spoke before the Board: Mark Sherby, Noah Standridge, Gail Levine, Brinly Standridge, George Wylie, Jacqui Rice, Steven Travis, Genevieve Florea, Jeff Goelitz, Jacque Spracklen, Mary Kashmar, John Lemmo, Tyler Pennington, Kate Bowland, Emma Reid, Swati Bargava, Scott Kley Contini, David Ramos-Beban, Shonti Burke, Shelly Beban, Theo Karakotsios, Sarah Mozelle, Angie Pennington, and Estella Fein.

Questions from the Board

Following public comment, the Board asked clarifying questions of the staff, legal counsel, Petitioners, and District representatives.

Deliberation by the Board

Trustee Sanchez disclosed that after reviewing the petition and staff report, the County Board Charter Subcommittee recommended denial of the petition. Each Board member then stated their views concerning the petition.

After Board deliberation, it was M.S.C. (Van Allen/Filicetti) to approve Resolution (19-02) denying the petition to create the Integrative Leadership Academy.

Ayes: Filicetti, Nichols, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen  
Nays: Sales  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Barr

6. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND COMING EVENTS

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education  
400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz CA 95060  
March 21, 2019  
4:00 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

President Sales adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.
**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Public Participation:**

All persons are encouraged to attend and, when appropriate, to participate in meetings of the Santa Cruz County Board of Education. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, please be present at the beginning of the meeting as any item, upon motion, may be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to state their name for the record. The president of the Board will establish a time limit of three (3) minutes, unless otherwise stated by the president, for comments from the public. Consideration of all matters is conducted in open session except those relating to litigation, personnel and employee negotiations, which, by law, may be considered in closed session. Expulsion appeal hearings are heard in closed session unless a request for hearing in open session is made by the appellant.

**Backup Documentation:**

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the County Office of Education, located 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, during normal business hours.

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