

Santa Clara County

School Boards Association

**Minutes of the
Wednesday, September 23, 2009
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**
Santa Clara County Office of Education
Oak Grove Room, 2nd floor South
1290 Ridder Parkway, San Jose

Roll Call

Present: Frank Biehl, Daniel Bobay, Cynthia Chang, Merrilee Claverie, Danielle Cohen, Albert Gonzalez, Barbara Klausner, Jo Lucey, Chris Miller, Nancy Newton, Mary Noel, Pam Parker, Antonio Perez, Tricia Rasmussen, Leslie Reynolds, George Sanchez, Dana Tom, Phyllis Vogel, Ellen Wheeler, Karen Whipple, guests, Paula Lacy, Allison Niday, Andrew Ratermann, and Rose Filicetti, Executive Director

Excused: Nancy Newkirk

Absent: Leon Beauchman, Linda Chen, Karen Chung, Janice Compton, Joseph Di Salvo, Bud Fellom, Jeff Fischer, Michael Gipe, Mark Good, Cindy Goodsell, Marsha Grilli, Judy Hannemann, Ben Liao, David Luskin, Peter Mandel, Dolores Marquez, Jeremy Nishihara, Bob Ramirez, Ken Riley, Anna Song, Kathleen Sullivan, Susan Sweeley, Michele van Zuiden,

Call to Order – Frank Biehl, President

Called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and welcomed all present. Self introductions were made.

Discussion Topic: Jo Lucey (Cupertino) led a discussion of effective strategies for winning bond and parcel tax elections and distributed information on past successful and upcoming ballot measures, upcoming election dates, pollsters, and campaign consultants. There was a lively discussion about recent measures that passed, including mail in ballots special elections.

A motion was made by Andrew Ratermann, and seconded by Ellen Wheeler, to approve Resolution 4-9/09 in support of Measure C, a new parcel tax for Santa Clara Unified School District. **The motion passed, unanimously.**

A motion was made by Jo Lucey, and seconded by Dana Tom, to approve Resolution 3-9/09 in support of a parcel tax renewal for Fremont Union High School District. **The motion passed, unanimously.**

This year, Frank Biehl serves as the Chair of the Santa Clara County Education Coalition. He presented a sample poll that the coalition will take of attitudes about funding for schools and asked for questions or comments. The intent is to create collaborative messaging to support local measures.

Minutes of Wednesday, March 25 and May 27, 2009

A motion was made by Jo Lucey and seconded by Leslie Reynolds to approve the Minutes of the Wednesday, March 25 and May 27, 2009 meetings, as submitted. **The motion passed, unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report – Pam Parker

Presented the end of year budget vs. actuals for June 30, 2009. The report shows total income for the year of \$21,044 from dues and events, and expenses of \$22,283, for a net loss for the year of \$1,239. The report was filed.

Pam presented the proposed budget for the coming year, 2009-10, showing a carry-forward of \$13,470, net income from dues (10% reduction) and events of \$10,648, and expenses of \$15,375, for a net loss of \$4,727 (same as this past year). The proposed ending balance is \$8,743, a planned spend down. There was a discussion of the conservative nature of the budget and an expectation that the year end loss would be much lower.

A motion was made by Cynthia Chang and seconded by Chris Miller, to approve the budget as presented. **The motion passed, unanimously.**

Cynthia Chang, a CPA, offered to do an annual review of last year's financial statements and make any recommendations for procedures.

President's Report – Frank Biehl

Spoke about his plans and philosophy for the coming year.

Committee Reports/Old Business

CSBA Update –Jo Lucey, Region 20 Director, presented information from the recent Board of Directors meeting.

Dues are holding steady and she reminded districts to pay their CSBA dues as well as the separate dues to the Education Legal Alliance, which represents CSBA in lawsuits such as the adequacy lawsuit.

She asked for a response to the "action alerts" that arrive via email from CSBA.

Region 20 has shown growth and will gain one more delegate in the upcoming elections, for a total of 12.

Those districts experiencing cash flow problems are invited to explore a new TRAN developed by CSBA that helps with cash flow across fiscal years.

The CSBA board of directors discussed the “Race to the Top” federal money, designated for schools performing in the bottom 5%, and the prescriptive remedial actions that comes with the money. Race to the Top guidelines propose closing low-performing schools, replacing at least 50% of school staff, or converting to charters – actions that have not proven to be effective, may not address the real obstacles to learning in the school, and arbitrarily prohibit the use of alternative interventions that may be more effective. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education is accepting comment through September 25 on major changes proposed in regulations affecting the \$3.5 billion School Improvement Grant program under Title I. Echoing similar provisions in the Race to the Top, the funds would be funneled through states to local educational agencies that agree to the same fundamental changes proposed in the Race to the Top Funds

Jo also asked if anyone was interested in applying for various CSBA committees.

RSVP's for the CSBA conference are also holding steady and she presented several compelling topics for presentations at the conference, including a sessions on:

- o Federal legislation wrt? public schools - Erika Hoffman from CSBA along with an official from the DOE, Office of secondary education, will be joining the panel Budget Trimming 101 – Have you considered this?
- o Surviving the School Fiscal Crash of '09-'10
- o Implications of the State Budget on Public Education - Mac Taylor from the LAO
- o Civic Engagement; Otherwise Engaged: the Price We Pay, SJS professor Larry Gerston
- o Constitutional Convention: is CA ready for Fundamental Reform? - the Bay Area Council, and California Forward
- o At-large district elections in response to the CA Voting Rights Act.
- o Opening Charters at the Expense of Schools
- o A Ca statewide data system: top down & Bottoms up
- o California Demographics: Implications & Considerations
- o CSR in California Schools – a Retrospective

Executive Director's Report – Rose Filicetti

Asked that members review the current roster for any changes. She asked for RSVP's for the fall dinner, and the payment of dues. Tomorrow, CSBA will present its “Back to School” Webcast in the Saratoga Room of the SCCOE.

New Business

Review and Approval of the 2009-10 Calendar and Programs – Frank Biehl noted the change in the date of the Forum on Alternative Teacher compensation. **A motion was made by Leslie Reynolds** and seconded by Nancy Newton to approve the calendar as presented. **The motion passed, unanimously.**

Conference Hospitality and Candidates' Workshop – Frank Biehl asked for a volunteer and Ellen Wheeler offered to arrange for the hospitality room at the conference. Chris Miller and Danielle Cohen offered to co-chair the Candidates' Workshop in June.

Fall Dinner Update – Dana Tom, VP

Confirmed the fall dinner at Fiorillo's and asked questions about the site of the spring Hoffmann Dinner.

2010 Hoffmann Awards – Frank Biehl for Esau Herrera and Nancy Newkirk, Co-chairs Presented the new categories and the rubrics for this year's awards. A committee of Nancy Newton, Chris Miller, Pam Parker, Phyllis Vogel, and Jo Lucey will look at the rubrics for next year. Frank and Esau will try to raise money for monetary awards and more complimentary seats at the dinner for the winners.

A motion was made by Danielle Cohen and seconded by Phyllis Vogel to adjourn the meeting and **the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m. by unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted

Rose Marie Filicetti
Executive Director