

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District was held at the Student Services Center on May 16, 2017 with a closed session at 5:30 p.m. and open session at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Karamitsos, Perez, Palera, Lopez, Garvin

OPEN SESSION

Ms. Perez called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 5:34 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Dr. Karamitsos called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Yailin Orozco led the Flag Salute.

ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

Dr. Richardson announced the closed session actions. All personnel actions were approved as submitted. The Board was updated regarding the status of labor negotiations and updated on the status regarding an existing litigation.

REPORTS

Student Reports

Candice Corpuz/Pioneer: PVHS Talent finals were held this week. Staff soccer game held on Friday. Prom was a success. Senior Awards night is next week. Candice will be attending UC Irvine in the fall and majoring in Biological Sciences.

Yailin Orozco/SMHS: ASB elections were held and results will be announced at the banquet this month. FBLA had their banquet and FFA will have their banquet tomorrow. Theme for Prom is Great Gatsby and tickets are on sale now. Staff soccer game vs. PVHS was held last Friday. Yailin will be attending UCLA in the fall and majoring in Sociology.

Dr. Karamitsos thanked them for their service to the Board for this school year. She and Dr. Richardson presented them with certificates and their nameplates.

Principal Report

Shanda Herrera introduced Hector Guerra, Gabriel Ponce and members of the FFA from Pioneer Valley High School.

Mr. Guerra gave an update on some land at PVHS that the FFA developed with support from the Ag Advisory members. All materials and equipment were donated at no cost to the FFA. In three years, they will have full production of wine grapes.

The FFA students shared a PowerPoint with their accomplishments during the school year which included Citrus CDE State Champions, State Champion Proficiency in Ag Mechanics Fabrication and Design, and numerous other awards. They took seventeen members to State Conference this year.

They thanked the Board for their constant support of their program and invited them to their banquet on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Gym.

Board Member Reports

Dr. Garvin: He spoke about staff that go above and beyond. He looks forward to all the activity and the banquets that will be coming up.

Ms. Lopez: She saw several prom pictures on social media and it looks like everyone had a great time. She attended the Town Hall meeting for Student Success. Mr. Flores from our district was a panel member as well as representatives from the Sheriff's Office, Probation and college students. A mother spoke about her child that committed suicide. It was heartbreaking to hear her speak. She reminded everyone that May is Mental Health month. We need to speak about it more. There are resources out there and people that want to help. If you are a teacher, please keep your door open and your ears open. If you are a student, there are people that want to help. If you are a parent, please speak with your children. She can't wait to hear the Ethnic and Gender studies presentation.

Mr. Palera: He said it was good to see a packed house. He thanked PVHS' FFA, they always present themselves well. He was able to sit on the architect selection panel for SMHS. The community will be happy with the results. SMHS is one of the oldest high schools in the state. He gave a shout out to Brenda Hoff. He sat in with the auditors that look over the books and they said they love coming to this district because Brenda is prepared and if they have any questions everything is right there for them. He was able to attend the annual School Boards Dinner. They gave a presentation on the State Dashboard and there will be a lot of changes. The accountability in the local contract aspect is interesting. Lastly, congratulations to all our graduating students and a big thanks to all the classified, the administration and our certificated staff for a job well done.

Ms. Perez: She said it was great to see everyone. She attended the Righetti Film Festival. Kudos to Mr. Garcia for all the great work. Thanks to Mr. Domingues and Mr. Groppetti for the tour of the new marquee at SMHS. She thanked Dr. Richardson for keeping the community and the board members informed. It is great to see where the district is going. She also thanked Dr. Richardson for being a member of the Mayor's Task Force. She is pleased to see everything that is going on in the district with students and staff. She is excited for the graduations (which includes her son).

Dr. Karamitsos: She echoes all the sentiments that have been expressed. It validates that one true constant in life is change. We need to continue to adapt and create learning opportunities for our students and staff. The goal is the betterment of the individual. Everyone matters and needs to feel the support of the Board. Graduation is exciting (her son will also be graduating). She thanked the FFA for coming out. She wished everyone a safe and happy summer as we are winding down.

Superintendent's Report

Certificated Employees of the Year

Each site principal presented their nominees with a certificate and a plaque to the Certificated Employee of the Year for their site. Dr. Richardson read a summary of their nominations and congratulated them for being recognized for their hard work and contributions to their schools and the district.

Ms. Prieto-Chavez presented a certificate to Lisa Adams. A plaque was presented to Glynda Maddaleno.

Mrs. Rotondi presented certificates to Ed Alvarez and Margaret Rucker (for John Rucker). A plaque was presented to Geri Coats.

Ms. Herrera presented a certificate to Hector Guerra. A plaque was presented to Brooke Baarstad.

Mr. Domingues presented certificates to Catherine Boyle, Merrie Okie-Goldin and Mark Powell. A plaque was presented to Kristie Whitefield-Vanhorn.

Dr. Richardson acknowledged National Teacher Day which was held on May 9, 2017 and California Day of the Teacher which was held on May 10, 2017.

Ethnic Studies Coursework Update

Maria Larios-Horton spoke about the Ethnic and Gender Studies Committee (which consists of thirteen teachers and one counselor). A slide show and handouts were presented to the Board.

Committee members Sonia Galvez, Kristen Kent and Kyle Gustafson spoke about the committee and its accomplishments thus far.

Ethnic and Gender studies courses empower students to embrace all parts of their identity. Students need to see themselves in the curriculum. Last year districtwide counselors and teachers participated in Cultural Proficiency training and State Science framework calls for a development of Gender Studies curriculum.

The committee began in early February and has met six times. They took a tour of El Rancho High School in Pico Rivera (who have an Ethnic and Gender Studies program) and the committee has had two meetings that included students, parents, staff and community members. They are having a full day meeting on June 9. They also attended Partners in Equity Community Gathering.

As a committee, they developed a Vision and Values:

Vision: To create and provide access to a culturally relevant curriculum for all stakeholders that both enriches academic performance, empowers social thinking, and develops both an independent and communal identity within the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District and Santa Maria Valley.

Values: Members of the Ethnic and Gender Studies Working Committee place high value in equity of opportunity, achievement, and respect for the similarities and differences among all people, necessary to both heal our communities and promote a sustainable future for everyone.

They are asking the school board to make this program a priority in the district. Data, research information and enrollment charts were shared.

The committee drafted and presented a three-year plan involving Core Courses, Elective Courses and Culturally Relevant Curriculum and Pedagogy. Their long-term goal is to have it as a graduation requirement.

Dr. Karamitsos thanked them for the presentation and for all the work they put forward. She thinks it has always been a part of curriculum but through a very narrow lens.

Ms. Lopez also went to El Rancho's presentation in December and met with the staff and the students at One Community Action and the people who have this desire to bring this to the district. She spoke about her father who came to San Antonio Texas by migrating with his family and following family members.

Ms. Perez asked for clarification on one of the slides regarding the revision of courses and Kevin Ilac, Department Chair of Social Science at PVHS said it would be a revision of courses (some are on the books but not currently offered) by expanding them to include Ethnic studies.

Jeff Cooper, teacher at SMHS, gave an example on how he had brought back some Mayan boxes from Central America and students would make them and learn how they are made in the Mayan culture.

Dr. Richardson wanted to let the Board know where the committee is at this point. John Davis will be working on it with the graduation requirement committee. It will be brought back as an action item at a later time.

Mr. Palera met with one of the committee members and had some of the information ahead of time to review. He is glad they are bringing it up through the chain. Dr. Richardson encouraged them to present it to the Board. We are heading in the right direction.

Dr. Garvin also met with members of the committee and one of the concerns is graduation rates. There are districts that are embracing this curriculum and it is not affecting graduation rates. Their school board embraced making it as a graduation requirement for that reason. He senses that it is taking too long but we are making progress. He supports the groups' efforts and is looking forward to the recommendation by the Superintendent.

A2A (Attendance to Attendance) Update

Pete Flores introduced Brenda Taft from A2A. The district has been working with her for two years now.

Ms. Taft went out to the school sites today and met with administrators. The goal is to help the district help the students to increase attendance in the district. This is the second year. She will return in the fall with updated information.

She presented a PowerPoint with the graduation rate gap and explained that A2A increases communication and engagement with families. Letters are printed and mailed several times (attendance notifications, tipping points and leadership initiatives). School sites are doing wonderful with the program.

Immigration issues, weather issues and illnesses have impacted attendance nationwide. In lieu of that – the truancy maintained, chronic truancy is down and chronic absenteeism is down. Across the board attendance issues have improved.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

General

Approval of Classified Bargaining Unit Tentative Agreement on Work Calendars for 2017/2018 – *Appendix D*

The District and the California School Employees Association (CSEA) have reached a tentative agreement on work calendars for 2017/18. The Tentative Agreement dated May 5, 2017 will take effect upon approval by both parties.

A motion was made by Dominick Palera and seconded by Amy Lopez to approve the work calendars for 2017/18 with CSEA pursuant to the tentative agreement dated May 5, 2017 and pending ratification by CSEA. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Classified School Employee Week – Resolution #19-2016-2017

Resolution Number 19-2016-2017 declaring May 21 through May 27, 2017 to be Santa Maria Joint Union High School District’s Classified School Employees Week. Classified school employees play crucial roles in education. From the time students board a school bus to the time they head home at the end of the day, every aspect of their education experience is impacted by a classified school employee. Classified employees are integral to public education. Since 1986, California has taken the third week in May to honor the invaluable contributions of classified school employees.

A motion was made by Diana Perez and seconded by Dominick Palera to approve Resolution #19-2016-2017. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

A roll call vote was required:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Dr. Karamitsos | Yes |
| Ms. Perez | Yes |
| Mr. Palera | Yes |
| Ms. Lopez | Yes |
| Dr. Garvin | Yes |

Reduction in Force for Classified Staff – Resolution #20-2016-2017

The district must reduce certain classified positions due to lack of funds. Resolution No. 20-2016-2017 authorizes the administration to proceed with the recommended reduction in force.

Per the CSEA labor agreement, bus routes are selected at the end of 20 school days. As a result of the routes established this school year, the district must reduce certain classified positions for the beginning of next school year.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Ms. Lopez to approve Resolution #20-2016-2017. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

A roll call vote was required:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Dr. Karamitsos | Yes |
| Ms. Perez | Yes |
| Mr. Palera | Yes |
| Ms. Lopez | Yes |
| Dr. Garvin | Yes |

Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators – Resolution #21-2016-2017

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing requires the Governing Board to adopt a “Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators”. Resolution Number 21-2016-2017 certifies that there is an insufficient number of certificated persons who meet the District’s specified employment criteria.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Mr. Palera to approve Resolution #21-2016-2017. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

A roll call vote was required:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Dr. Karamitsos | Yes |
| Ms. Perez | Yes |
| Mr. Palera | Yes |
| Ms. Lopez | Yes |
| Dr. Garvin | Yes |

INSTRUCTION

Approval of Designated Representation to California Interscholastic Federation League (CIF)

Education Code 33353(a) gives the authority for high school athletics to high school governing boards. The code also requires that the boards, after joining CIF, designate their representatives to CIF leagues.

Athletic Directors

- Greg Lanthier, Pioneer Valley High School
- Kevin Barbarick, Righetti High School
- Brian Wallace, Santa Maria High School

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Ms. Perez to approve the CIF designated representatives as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

BUSINESS

**INFORMATION ITEM – NO ACTION TAKEN:
Update on Solar Photovoltaic (PV) District-wide Project**

In December 2016, the board authorized district administration to proceed with issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) district-wide. The District is looking to develop energy conservation, cogeneration, and alternate energy supply sources at District facilities. Accordingly, the District used a competitive process (Request for Proposals or “RFP”) to select a qualified contractor to design and build solar photovoltaic generating facilities at four District sites (“Solar Project”).

Based on the overall proposed Solar Project cost and cost-savings, among other factors, OpTerra Energy Services (“OpTerra”) was selected to negotiate a contract with the District to design and build the Solar Project. In the event that the District cannot reach agreeable terms with OpTerra, District reserves the right to negotiate with another contractor selected from the competitive process.

District staff will return to the Board to seek approval of the final negotiated contract, in accordance with the process required by Government Code section 4217.10 *et seq.*

Ms. Ortiz spoke about the differences in costs from many years ago. If the district uses the Power Purchase agreement (PPA) there is no capital outlay and at the end of the day will end up paying less for energy for 25 years. The district would not have to worry about the panels and maintenance. With the PPA it includes maintenance for the life of the PPA. She is meeting with them at the end of the month. She will bring back the contract to the Board for approval.

Dr. Garvin complimented Ms. Ortiz for bringing the people that have the expertise together for this information.

Dr. Karamitsos commented that it was going to be approximately \$16 million initially (when the district looked into it years ago).

Ms. Ortiz said the savings with OpTerra and using the PPA will save an estimated \$5.2 million (conservative amount) in 25 years. It could be a savings of up to \$7.3 million for the life of the project.

Mr. Palera thanked her for doing the research. It brings the anxiety down for the program. Sitting on the architect committee review he realizes that SMHS campus will be changed. What if the district implements the plan and the campus changes?

Ms. Ortiz said there will be too much construction activity at SMHS so that site will be on hold.

Award of Bid for Six(6) Portable Re-Roofs: Santa Maria High School 909 & 902; Righetti High School 607 & 626; and Pioneer Valley High School 606 & 607- PROJECT #17-254

District administration opened bids on May 2, 2017 for Award of Bid for SIX (6) PORTABLE RE-ROOFS: SANTA MARIA HIGH SCHOOL 909 & 902; RIGHETTI HIGH SCHOOL 607 & 626; AND PIONEER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL 606 & 607- PROJECT #17-254.

| BIDDER | BASE BID | PLYWOOD DECK/ Per Sq. Ft. Cost |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| XNS, Inc. | \$115,318.00 | \$1.90 |
| Channel Islands Roofing | \$110,475.00 | \$3.75 |
| Craig Roofing | \$96,200.00 | \$4.00 |
| Falcon Roofing | \$109,887.00 | \$4.50 |

After review of the four (4) bids received by administration, Craig Roofing was determined to be the apparent low bidder. A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Mr. Palera to award the bid to Craig Roofing. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Award of Bid for the RHS-Freezer and Kitchen Equipment Replacement – Project #15-177

The administration opened bids on May 8, 2017 for the RHS-FREEZER AND KITCHEN EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT- PROJECT #15-177.

| BIDDER | BASE BID |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Vernon Edwards Constructors | \$115,950.00 |

After review of the one bid received by administration, Vernon Edwards Constructors was determined to be the low bidder. A motion was made by Ms. Lopez and seconded by Dr. Garvin to award the bid to Vernon Edwards Constructors. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Award of Bid for the SMHS/RHS-Prop 39 Electrical Upgrades – Project #16-227.1

The administration opened bids on May 8, 2017 for the SMHS/RHS-PROP 39 ELECTRICAL UPGRADES- PROJECT #16-227.1.

| BIDDER | BASE BID |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Newton Construction | \$423,500.00 |
| Smith Electric Service | \$275,825.76 |

After review of the two (2) bids received by administration, Smith Electric Service was determined to be the apparent low bidder.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Mr. Palera to award the bid to Smith Electric Service. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Reject Bid For the SMHS/RHS/PVHS-Prop 39 Mechanical Upgrades – Project #16-227.2

The administration opened bids on May 10, 2017 for the SMHS/RHS/PVHS-PROP 39 MECHANICAL UPGRADES - PROJECT #16-227.2.

| BIDDER | BASE BID |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Vernon Edwards Constructors | \$915,610.00 |

After review of the one bid received by administration, Vernon Edwards Constructors was determined to be the apparent low bidder; however, the bid amount was substantially over the budgeted amount for the project.

A motion was made by Dr. Garvin and seconded by Ms. Lopez to reject the bid for the SMHS/RHS/PVHS-Prop 39 Mechanical Upgrades–Project #16-227.2 due to the bid being substantially over the budgeted amount for the project. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Mr. Palera and seconded by Dr. Garvin to approve the consent items as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

REPORTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

Tami Contreras gave a thank you to all classified employees. They will be celebrating Classified Week next week.

OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS

| SPEAKER | TOPIC |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Keren Chi | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Jorge Araiza | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Apolonio Torres | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Jessie Funes | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Angelica Lillo | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Jeremiah Hernandez | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Helen Galvan | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Francisco Lozano | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Audy McDonald | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Ricardo Valencia | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Andrea Pesillas | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Cesar Smith | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Mes Ruiz-Garcia | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Jenifer Lopez | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Yulianna Vega | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Joana Barrera | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Karen Perez | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Erica Garcia | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Mary Solorio Jacka | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Connie Ford | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Jonathan Alex Rojas | Ethnic and Gender Studies |
| Michelle Edlalin | Ethnic and Gender Studies |

ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no items discussed that were not on the agenda.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held June 13, 2017. Closed session begins at 5:30 p.m. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the District Support Services Center.

FUTURE REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2017

June 20, 2017
July 11, 2017

August 1, 2017
September 12, 2017
October 10, 2017

November 14, 2017
December 12, 2017

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.