

SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
1290 Ridder Park Drive  
San Jose, California 95131

APPROVED  
Minutes of Regular Meeting #2090  
Open Session — San Jose Room  
December 14, 2011

President Di Salvo dedicated the meeting to member Beauchman's mother, Marie Rhinehardt, who passed away this week. A moment of silence was observed.

1. Call to Order

President Di Salvo called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

a. Roll Call

Member(s) Present:

Grace Mah, Area 1  
Michael Chang, Area 2  
Leon Beauchman, Area 3  
Joseph Di Salvo, Area 4  
Anna Song, Area 5  
Craig Mann, Area 6  
Julia Hover-Smoot, Area 7

b. Adoption of Agenda

Member Mann requested that Action Items 10.W., 10.X., and 10.Y. be moved before Action Item 10.B.

Member Mah requested that Consent Item 9.D. be pulled for further discussion.

President Di Salvo requested that Consent Item 9.B. be pulled for corrections.

MOTION #2090-1 by member Mann that the agenda be adopted with requested amendments. Member Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

President Di Salvo asked Preston Smith, Chief Achievement Officer of Rocketship Education, to lead the pledge of allegiance.

2. Hearing of Persons Desiring to Address the Board or to Present Petitions

No one wished to address the Board.

3. Closed Session to Consider Anticipated Litigation

Closed session was cancelled.

4. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

There were no reports due to the Closed Session being cancelled.

5. Employee of the Month: Gloria Chou, Accountant II, Accounting Services, Business Services Branch

President Di Salvo introduced Gloria Chow, December's Employee of the Month. He noted Gloria's contributions, presented a plaque and an engraved pen in recognition of her work. Cal Scheid, Director of Internal Business Services, provided some background on Gloria's accomplishments. Gloria recognized her colleagues and thanked them for the recognition.

6. Public Comments of Persons Desiring to Address the Board or to Present Petitions

Sherri Taylor, parent, spoke about the educational opportunities offered at Hammer Montessori School.

Bob Wilson, self, addressed his concern on the contents of the December 10, 2011 opinion article found in the San Jose Mercury News, which was written by members Hover-Smoot and Mann. Article addressed 20 new charter schools in Santa Clara County.

The following individuals expressed their concern and/or opposition of approving 20 new Rocketship charter schools at one time or a particular Rocketship Education charter school in their district:

- Albert Gonzalez, Trustee, Santa Clara Unified School District
- Bobbie Plough, Superintendent, Santa Clara Unified School District
- Elise De Young, Trustee, Santa Clara Unified School District
- John Lindner, Board President, Franklin-McKinley School District
- KC Walsh, CTA/NEA
- Ben Field, South Bay Labor Council
- Leslie Reynolds, Trustee, San Jose Unified School District
- Kathy Sullivan, Trustee, Morgan Hill Unified School District

The following individuals spoke about issues surrounding Bullis Charter School's open enrollment:

- Laurie Lihler, parent
- Sheila McGovern, parent
- Michelle Sturiale, parent
- Robert Dinneen, parent
- Rosanne Park, parent

Karen Spychala, Secretary of ACE, informed board members of upcoming graduation dates for both Special Education and Alternative Education.

7. Presentation of the Golden Bell Award

Dr. Charles Weis, Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, presented the Golden Bell Award, which is given by the California School Boards Association. The award was for "Bridging the Achievement Gap." Dr. Weis recognized the following staff who worked towards the achievement of the award:

- Linda Aceves
- Edith Mourtos
- Yee Wan
- Nancy San Jose
- Melissa Christie
- Bill Conrad
- Jim Scherrer
- Janeen Salcido
- Patricia Ho
- Jason Scholl
- Jeremy Smith
- Lindsey Wong
- Larry Slonaker
- Andrea Woodhouse

President Di Salvo requested that Dr. Weis chair the Annual Organizational Meeting.

Dr. Weis presented President Di Salvo with a gavel plaque in recognition of his service as Board President for 2011.

8. Annual Organizational Meeting

- a. Request to consider waiving Board Bylaw 9100, which stipulates that a “county board member shall not serve more than one consecutive year in the same office”

Vice President Chang explained the reason why he brought this request forward. The Board deliberated.

MOTION #2090-2 by Vice President Chang that the Board waive Board Bylaw 9100 for one year, member Mann seconded the motion and it carried 4-3 with members Beauchman, Hover-Smoot and Mah voting no.

- b. Election of President of the County Board of Education

Dr. Weis called for nominees for the 2012 Board President of the Santa Clara County Board of Education.

President Di Salvo and member Beauchman were nominated. Member Beauchman declined the nomination and President Di Salvo accepted.

President Di Salvo was re-elected to Board President for 2012 by a 7-0 vote.

- c. Election of Vice President of the County Board of Education

Dr. Weis called for nominees for the 2012 Vice President of the Santa Clara County Board of Education.

Members Hover-Smoot and Mah were nominated and both accepted.

Member Hover-Smoot was elected to the Vice President seat by a 4-3 vote.

- d. Setting of Day and Time for Regular County Board of Education Meetings for 2012

MOTION #2090-3 by member Mann to set day and time for regular County Board of Education Meetings for 2012 as presented in the board packet. Member Song seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- e. Discussion of Board Appointments to Subcommittees for 2012

Dr. Weis presented an overview of the subcommittees and requested that all members submit their preferences to President Di Salvo by Friday, December 16, 2011.

f. Approval of Board Routine Travel Items

MOTION #2090-4 by member Mann to approve the routine travel items. Member Song seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

President Di Salvo introduced Mayor Chuck Reed, City of San Jose, who spoke on behalf of Rocketship Education. Madison Nguyen—Vice Mayor and Council Member of the City of San Jose and Sam Liccardo—Council Member of the City of San Jose also voiced their support.

The Board broke for Recess at 6:44 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 6:48 p.m.

9. Consent Action Items

- a) Request Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting of November 16, 2011 (#2088-S1)
- c) Request Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting of November 22, 2011 (#2089-S1)
- e) Request Approval to Submit Non-Competitive Grant for Afterschool Assistance Providers Connect (ASAPconnect) Technical Assistance Provider Directory Project
- f) Request Approval of Resolutions in Support of Expansion of Workability II Program 2011-2013

MOTION #2090-5 by member Mann to approve Consent Action items 9A, 9C, 9E and 9F. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- b) Request Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of November 16, 2011 (#2089)

President Di Salvo requested that the following amendments be made to the regular board minutes of November 16 under Item #5 “Anti-Bullying Advisory Council: change Dr. Paul Mattarang to read “Dr. Paul Madarang” and indicate that a request was made to staff to bring this item back on the February 1, 2012 agenda for action on recommendations.

MOTION #2090-6 by member Mann to approve Consent Action Item 9.B. with requested amendments. Member Mah seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- d) Request Approval to Submit Non-Competitive Grant for Advancing Summer Matters Initiative through Technical Assistance Capacity Building

Member Mah inquired on the full time employees (FTEs) for the non-competitive grant.

MOTION #2090-7 by member Mann to approve Consent Action Item 9.D. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Action Items

- a. Renewal of the Charter for Leadership Public Schools – San Jose for the Period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017

President Di Salvo explained the decision process and Dr. Lucretia Peebles, Director of Charter Schools Department, presented a staff report on Leadership Public Schools.

Board members asked clarifying questions and petitioners, Dr. Louise Bay Waters and Principal Vanessa Sifuentes made comments.

MOTION #2090-8 by member Mann to approve the renewal petition for Leadership Public Schools – San Jose for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017, with the stipulation that noted deficiencies in the required elements be strengthened before a contract is signed. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 6-1 with member Chang voting no.

CHANGE IN AGENDA

- w. Request Adoption of Written Findings on Rocketship 6

Greta Hansen, County Counsel, provided a brief background on the request of written findings on Rocketship 6, 7 and 8.

MOTION #2090-9 by member Mann to adopt the written findings prepared by County Counsel to complete the approval of Rocketship 6. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- x. Request Adoption of Written Findings on Rocketship 7

MOTION #2090-10 by member Mann to adopt the written findings prepared by County Counsel to complete the approval of Rocketship 7. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- y. Request Adoption of Written Findings on Rocketship 8

MOTION #2090-11 by member Mann to adopt the written findings prepared by County Counsel to complete the approval of Rocketship 8. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

b. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 9

President Di Salvo explained the decision process for Rocketship 9 through 28.

The following members of the Santa Clara County School Boards Association (SCCSBA) voiced their concern on approving all 20 Rocketship schools at one time and requested incremental approval. They requested that Rocketship first apply to local school districts to build strong local ties.

- Pam Parker, trustee, Campbell Union High School District
- Kathy Sullivan, trustee, Morgan Hill Unified School District
- Ron Woolf, board president, Morgan Hill Unified School District
- Dolores Marquez, trustee, Alum Rock School District
- Tamara Logan, board president, Los Altos School District
- Nancy Newkirk, board president, Sunnyvale School District
- Bob Benevento, trustee, Morgan Hill Unified School District
- Balaji Venkatraman, board clerk, Evergreen School District
- Dana Tom, vice president, Palo Alto Unified School District
- Josephine Lucey, trustee, Cupertino Union School District
- Albert Gonzalez, trustee, Santa Clara Unified School District
- Jim Zeto, president pro-tem, Evergreen School District
- Vince Songcayawon, trustee, Evergreen School District
- Anita Herrmann, trustee, Sunnyvale School District

The following individuals spoke in support of Rocketship:

- Kristi Nevarez read a letter of support from Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren
- Dennis Cima, Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- Fred Ferrer, First 5

The following school district officials expressed their concern on the 20 Rocketship charter petitions that were brought to the County Board of Education before they were even brought to local school districts—thus taking away the authority and responsibility of the local governing board to oversee the charters and the opportunity for collaboration:

San Jose Unified School District

- Dr. Vincent Matthews, superintendent
- Veronica Grijalva Lewis, board member
- Steven McMahon, president, San Jose Teachers Association, (reiterated that there is evidence of a dysfunctional system and that there is a need for partnership and collaboration)

Alum Rock Union School District

- José Manzo, superintendent

Oak Grove School District

- Chris Jew, superintendent

Campbell Union School District

- Dr. Eric Andrew, superintendent

Evergreen School District

- Kathy Gomez, superintendent
- Jim Zeto, president pro-tem, Board of Education

The following individuals made general comments, in support of Rocketship Education:

- Miriam Maldonado, People Acting in Community Together (PACT)
- Sofia Salas, parent
- Jaqueline Ortiz, parent
- Jennifer Lyons, parent
- Maria Gomez, parent
- Tran Nguyen, parent
- Margarita Cardona, parent

Bob Benevento, trustee, Morgan Hill Unified School District, asked why the Board would consider approving 20 Rocketship Education charter schools at one time.

Tamara Logan, self, spoke about district board members wanting a provision where charter schools would cooperate with the local school district in order to build a personal relationship with the school district.

The Board broke for Recess at 8:37 p.m. and reconvened into Open Session at 8:47 p.m.

The following individuals made general comments, in support of Rocketship Education:

- Micaela Hoskins, PACT
- Maribel Molina, parent
- Beatriz Santamaria, parent
- Susan price-Jang, PACT
- Teresa Chagoya, parent
- Kevin Ngo, PACT
- Patricia Martinez, parent
- Araceli Gembe, parent
- Barbara Hanse, PACT
- Lisa Martinez, parent
- Donna Ikebe, parent

The following individuals raised various concerns on the 20 Rocketship Education charter school petitions:

- Rogelio Ruiz, Rehon & Roberts and Alum Rock community member
- Cindy Chavez, Southbay Labor Council
- Robert Segala
- Don Renwick, ACE
- Linda Baxley, parent
- Katie Wyatt, teacher, Alum Rock Union School District
- Andres Quinter, Latino Leadership Alliance

Dr. Weis presented the staff report.

Preston Smith, petitioner, gave a brief presentation and thanked staff, community members and Rocketship Education parents for all their contributions.

Board members asked clarifying questions and heard comments from Superintendent Manzo, Jim Zeto, President Pro-Tem of Evergreen School District and Pam Parker, SCCSBA.

Board members deliberated.

Member Song read a statement, which explained why she believes it is not in the community's best interest for the Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCCBOE) to vote today in favor of Rocketship's requests for 20 county-benefit charter schools and requested the SCCBOE to disapprove all 20 petitions and direct staff to prepare written findings consistent with the points she made and to present them to the SCCBOE for adoption. (statement attached)

MOTION #2090-12 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 9 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with member Song and Chang voting no.

c. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 10

MOTION #2090-13 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 10 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with member Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

d. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 11

MOTION #2090-14 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 11 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with member Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

e. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 12

Steven McMahon, San Jose Teachers Association, spoke on Rocketship Education's existing three charter schools in the San Jose Unified School District and how the district has been collaborating with Rocketship Education and how the new petitions should be brought first to the local level.

MOTION #2090-15 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 12 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 4-3 with President Di Salvo and members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

f. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 13

MOTION #2090-16 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 13 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 4-3 with President Di Salvo and members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

g. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 14

MOTION #2090-17 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 14 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

h. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 15

Member Song said that the Franklin-McKinley School District (FMSD) has been another district that has been working collaboratively with Rocketship Education and has approved a Rocketship charter school. She requested that the same courtesy that has been given to the San Jose Unified School District, by Rocketship, be given to FMSD.

Member Chang stated that FMSD is known as a leader in terms of working collaboratively with Rocketship Education and other charter schools and that they also be given consideration.

MOTION #2090-18 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 15 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

i. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 16

MOTION #2090-19 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 16 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

j. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 17

MOTION #2090-20 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 17 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

k. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 18

Ina Bendis, self, spoke in support of Rocketship 18.

Chris Stampolis, self, spoke in opposition of Rocketship 18 and said that it should be submitted as a district benefit charter to Santa Clara.

MOTION #2090-21 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 18 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

l. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 19

MOTION #2090-22 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 19 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

m. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 20

MOTION #2090-23 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 20 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

n. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 21

MOTION #2090-24 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 21 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

o. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 22

MOTION #2090-25 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 22 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

p. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 23

MOTION #2090-26 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 23 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

q. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 24

MOTION #2090-27 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 24 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

r. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 25

MOTION #2090-28 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 25 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

s. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 26

MOTION #2090-29 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 26 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Member Mah seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

t. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 27

MOTION #2090-30 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 27 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

u. Decision on the Countywide Charter School Petition for Rocketship 28

MOTION #2090-31 by member Mann to approve Rocketship 28 for the reasons set forth in the staff report. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Song and Chang voting no.

*Member Song's statement concerning her no vote on Rocketship is attached.*

MOTION #2090-32 by member Mann to have the Board's attorney, Greta Hansen—County Counsel provide written findings for Rocketship 9 through 28 for the Board to complete approval of Rocketship 9 through 28.

v. Renewal of the Charter for Rocketship Si Se Puede for the Period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017

MOTION #2090-33 by member Mann to approve the renewal of the charter for Rocketship Si Se Puede for the Period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 6-1 with member Song voting no.

z. Request Approval to Increase Board Compensation

MOTION #2090-34 by member Mann to approve the Board's compensation increase by 5 percent effective January 1, 2012 and to approve a Board budget increase of \$2,606.23 to cover the increase. Vice President Hover-Smoot seconded the motion and it carried 5-2 with members Beauchman and Mah voting no.

11. Information Item

a. First Interim Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Kenneth Shelton, Chief Business Officer, provided a summary on the First Interim Financial Report for the fiscal year 2011-2012.

12. County Superintendent Report

- SJ/SV2020 Update
- Letter dated November 14, 2011 from Victor Ojakian, Chair of County of Santa Clara Mental Health Board, thanking Dr. Weis for participating in an informative discussion on the repeal of AB 3632.
- Attendance and Enrollment for Community Schools, November 9-November 30, 2011
- Reported on an Alternative Education student who had been injured from a gun shot off school grounds
- Reported on State budget cuts
- Reported that 90 percent of GED applicants have passed the GED testing in December 2011

13. Correspondence

- Letter dated Dec. 9, 2011 from Miguel Marquez, County Counsel, RE: Rocketship Education and Rocketship Six Public School
- Letter dated Dec. 13, 2011 from Eddie Garcia, President of Latino Leadership Alliance, RE: December 14, 2011, Board Meeting: Approval of 20 New Charter Schools
- Email dated Dec. 13, 2011 from Ellen Wheeler, RE: “Yes” on Rocketship Charter Vote from Trustee Ellen Wheeler
- Letter dated Dec. 14, 2011 from Pam Parker, President of the Santa Clara County School Boards Association (SCCSBA), RE: Rocketship Charter Schools
- Letter dated Dec. 14, 2011 from Zoe Lofgren, United States Congresswoman 16<sup>th</sup> District of California, RE: Support of Rocketship’s 20 schools
- Email from member Anna Song dated Dec. 14, 2011 RE: A formal objection

14. Information Item

a. County Board of Education Member Reports

Grace Mah

- Attended the Rouleau School holiday party

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Board meeting at Anne Darling School – Update on Special Education, Date: TBD (Grace Mah)
- Discussion on having a meeting between the County Board of Education and the County Board of Supervisors, 2012 YR (Joseph Di Salvo)
- Recognize substitute teachers for each program, Spring 2012 (Joseph Di Salvo)
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Presentation, 2012 YR (Joseph Di Salvo)
- Whistle Blower Policy—City of San Jose, 2012 YR (Joseph Di Salvo)
- Roll of County Office of Education with Community Colleges, 2012 YR (Joseph Di Salvo)

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Charles Weis, County Superintendent of Schools  
Ex-Officio Secretary

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