

**BOARD SUMMARY  
SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District was held at the Support Services Center on March 5, 2008, with a closed session at 5:30 p.m. and open session at 6:30 p.m. Members present during closed session: Reece, Tognazzini, Walsh, Garvin and Karamitsos. Absent during open session: Garvin

**Closed Session Actions** - Dr. Hearn reported the following closed session actions:

Student Matters – The Board approved 23 proposed expulsions as presented.

Certificated and Classified Personnel Actions. The Board approved routine hiring, transfers, promotions, evaluations, terminations, and resignations as presented.

**Presentations - Mock Trial Demonstration**

Jennifer Ruby, English teacher, introduced the Pioneer Valley High School Mock Trial Team and described the team's recent participation in a Santa Barbara competition. Students reenacted a trial, in which they assumed the roles of attorneys who presented pretrial motions regarding the use of memory mapping in court. Students also provided a number of examples of what they had learned about civil liberties and the justice system through the Mock Trial Team and the Law and Society course.

**Items Scheduled for Information - Superintendent's Report**

**County Review of Williams Settlement Report**

Susan Whitefield, Director of Student Services, provided the Santa Barbara County Education Office Williams Settlement review of Santa Maria High School for the period of October through December 2007. The review stated that the district is in compliance with the Williams criteria in all areas and has received no uniform complaints. The criteria include: (a) sufficient standards-aligned instructional materials, (b) district facilities in good repair with the exception of minor items, which have been repaired since that time; (c) a school accountability report card with accurate data related to the sufficiency of instructional materials and facilities; and monitored teacher misassignments and vacancies.

**Open Enrollment to Santa Maria High School**

Based on feeder school enrollment distributed at the meeting, it is projected that Santa Maria High School's enrollment will be close to Pioneer Valley's for several years. Since the initial purpose of balancing enrollment at Pioneer Valley and Santa Maria High Schools is no longer an issue, Dr. Hearn recommended, and the Board approved discontinuing open enrollment. Students already at Santa Maria High School will be allowed to remain there.

**Pioneer Valley High School Accreditation**

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Pioneer Valley High School concluded its first year accreditation visit on March 5, 2008. The report developed by staff under Principal Dee Ringstead's leadership was outstanding. Dr. Hearn met the chair of the Visiting Committee who said it reflected a great degree of consensus on what was actually happening at the school.

Ms. Ringstead reported that people familiar with the accreditation process were asked to conduct a mock meeting with five focus groups before the official WASC visit for staff to experience the process. Dr. Reece was one of the people involved who worked with teachers on assessment and accountability to prepare them for the WASC visit.

### **Reports from Employee Organizations**

There were no reports from employee organizations.

### **Board Member Reports**

Dr. Karamitsos reported that she had attended a forum sponsored by Allan Hancock College on a communitywide response to gangs. Since schools play an important role in the community in providing direction to students, she proposed inviting groups and projects associated with gang prevention to assist the schools in keeping the community safe and healthy. She also suggested a future event in line with the goal of gang prevention.

Dr. Hearn stated that the district works with the police department on gang prevention.

### **Items Scheduled for Action - Instruction**

#### **Fourth Year English Courses**

The following alternative elective courses were approved to fulfill the fourth year English requirement. The alternate class will support the English Four California Content Standards and meet the criteria set by the District English Departments. Students must take the course as seniors for it to count as the fourth year English requirement.

Ag Communication & Leadership  
Classic Fiction & Film  
Communication Technology  
Developmental Psychology of Children  
Fashion Design  
Introduction to Education  
Music History  
Playwriting  
Practical English  
Technical Reading & Writing for Industrial Arts & Technology  
Theatre History

#### **New Course Approval**

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The following new course was approved:

Pioneer Valley High School/Industrial Technology Department

- Technical Reading & Writing for Industrial Arts & Technology

Jim Armstrong, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, explained that this course will be taught initially by David Dawson at Pioneer Valley High School. It will be open to all students—not just seniors who can take it for the fourth year English requirement.

### **Business - Inflationary Increase of Developer Fees – Level I**

An increase of developer fees was approved to mitigate the impact of student population growth from new construction and expansion of residential properties within district boundaries. A public hearing was held with no comments.

Residential properties were changed to \$2.97 per square foot (\$.34 increase) and Commercial/Industrial properties were changed to \$.47 per square foot (\$.05 increase). The fee is split with the five elementary school districts.

Dr. Karamitsos had noticed in the district's historical enrollment a consistent attrition rate of 200 students from ninth to twelfth grade. Dr. Hearn said that these students are tracked as long as they stay in district alternative programs. However, if they leave school and do not request a transcript within 45 days, they are considered dropouts by the state's definition. This district has been aggressive in providing alternative education to address the attrition rate. When Delta High School is built, it will have a larger capacity and, hopefully, will keep more students in school.

### **Authorization to Make Budget Revisions**

Income and expenditures were updated and the working budget was adjusted to reflect these changes. The Board approved a resolution authorizing the budget changes presented.

### **2007/2008 Second Interim Report**

Education Code requires each school district to file two interim reports detailing the financial and budgetary status to the County Office of Education. The Second Interim report covers the period from July 1, 2007, to January 31, 2008

In anticipation of significant income loss due to the Governor's Budget Proposal for 2008/09, district administration has reduced projected income accordingly. Substantial deficit spending would have resulted if this adjustment had not been made and current expenditures remained constant. District administration has started the process of adjusting staff allotments for either vacancies or known retirements as well as anticipated

declining enrollment. Although further reductions will be required before adoption of the

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2008/09 budget, current reserves allow the district to file a Positive Certification at this time.

Diane Bennett, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, explained several financial consequences that could have occurred had the district gone into qualified budget status. This would have affected the ability of the district to take out a note to cover payroll until local taxes and state monies are received, especially since the Governor has also announced that the state will wait until September to pay schools instead of July. The bond debt ratio would also require a higher interest rate, which would increase the cost to taxpayers.

### **Consent Items**

The following were among the consent items approved:

### **Book Discard**

Independent Study received approval to discard the obsolete/damaged books presented below.

<b>Title</b>	<b>ISBN No.</b>	<b>Copyright</b>	<b>Number</b>
Glencoe Health: A Guide to Wellness	002652600x	1	1994
Modern World History: Patterns of Interactions California Edition	0618184880	4	2003
Elements of Literature: 5th Course Literature of the United States	0030520649	2	2000
Elements of Literature: 4th Course with Readings in World Literature	0030520630	5	2000
Elements of Literature: 3rd Course	0030520622	2	2000
TE Elements of Literature: 5th Course Literature of the United States	0030521173	1	2000
TE Elements of Literature: 4th Course with reading in World Literature	0030521149	1	2000
TE Elements of Literature: 3rd Course	0030521130	1	2000
Algebra I : An Integrated Approach	0877202923	1	1994

Independent Study Book Discards (continued)

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<b>Title</b>	<b>ISBN No.</b>	<b>Copyright</b>	<b>Number</b>
Comprehensive United States History	0877206422	4	1998
Concepts and Challenges in Physical Science: 2nd Edition	0870654667	1	1989
Elementary Algebra: New Edition Part I	0395361605	1	1985
Modern World History: Patterns of Interactions	0395938295	1	1999
Glencoe Economics: Principles & Practices	0078259770	68	2003
Elements of Literature:3rd Course Language Handbook Worksheet Answer Key	0030524148	1	2000
Elements of Literature:3rd Course Language Handbook Worksheet	0030524032	1	2000
Elements of Literature:4th Course Language Handbook Worksheet Answer Key	00301524172	1	2000
Elements of Literature:4th Course Language Handbook Worksheet	00301524040	1	2000
Elements of Literature:5th Course Language Handbook Worksheets Answer Key	0030524180	1	2000
Elements of Literature:5th Course Language Handbook Worksheets	0030524075	1	2000
Life Science	0030556392	1	2001
The challenges of Freedom	0844565806	1	1984
TE Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction	0618184872	1	2003
TE Glencoe Health: A Guide to Wellness	0026526026	2	1994
Foundations in American History	0870656023	1	1987
Comprehensive United States Teachers Manual Answer key	0877208603	1	1989
Short lessons in Art History	0825110998	1	1987
Maps Globes Graphs: Teachers Manual	0811420906	1	1989
Glencoe Health: A guide to Wellness Enrichment Activities	0026526077	1	1994
Glencoe Health: A guide to Wellness Chapter Tests	0026526123	1	1992

**Denial of Claims**

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1. The District received a claim from Peggy A. Warwick with regard to alleged property damage and bodily injury that occurred on January 10, 2008.
2. The District received a claim from Peggy A. Warwick, for Katherine Warwick (a minor) with regards to alleged bodily injury that occurred on January 10, 2008.
3. The District received a claim from Stephanie Brown with regards to alleged personal injury that occurred on January 29, 2008.

The Board of Trustees approved the denial of the above claims for referral to the District's insurance carrier.

### **Certification of Coaches**

The Board approved certification to the State Board of Education that the provisions of Section 593 have been met regarding the qualifications and competencies for temporary athletic team coaches.

### **Pioneer Valley High School Request for Travel**

Michelle Maani, French Teacher at Pioneer Valley High School was granted approval to travel with four district students to Montréal and Québec in July 2008 for six days on an educational tour operated by the Cultural Heritage Alliance. The trip will be funded by French Club fundraising and the students. Ms. Maani is the chaperone.

### **Textbook Approval**

The following textbooks were presented for preview at the February 13, 2008, board meeting and were presented for second reading and approval.

#### Science/District

*Earth Science (Basic)*; Tarbuck, Lutgens; Pearson Prentice Hall; © 2006 for Earth Science

*Earth Science (Basic)*; Allison, DeGaetano, Pasachoff; Holt, Rhinehart & Wilson; © 2007 for Earth Science

#### Social Science/SMHS

*Society the Basics*; John J. Macionis; Pearson Prentice Hall; © 2006 for Sociology

### **Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET)**

Kathy Pritchard, Director of English Learner/Migrant Education Programs, received approval to request allocation of funds from the California Department of Education in order for our district to participate in the CBET Program for fiscal year 2008-09. This program is used to provide free or subsidized adult English-language instruction for parents or community members who have pledged to provide personal English-language tutoring to K-12 English learners.

### **Authorization for Sale of Obsolete Equipment**

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The Board provided authorization to conduct a public auction through the Internet at *interschola.com* to sell equipment that is obsolete, surplus or damaged beyond repair to the highest responsible bidder.

### **Next Meeting Dates**

Unless otherwise announced, the next **regular** meeting will be held on **April 9, 2008**, with a closed session at **5:30 p.m.** and open session at **6:30 p.m.** at the Santa Maria Joint Union School District Support Services Center at 2560 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

A **special meeting** is scheduled on **March 19, 2008**, with an open session at **5 p.m.** for a Budget Work Study Session. The meeting will be held at the Santa Maria Joint Union School District Support Services Center at 2560 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

A **special meeting** is scheduled on **April 16, 2008**, with an open session at **5 p.m.** for a Facilities Projects Work Study Session. The meeting will be held at the Santa Maria Joint Union School District Support Services Center at 2560 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.