

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**South Building Board Room**  
**1400 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

**Minutes**

**DISCUSSION SESSION**

President Dunn called the Discussion Session to order at 4:20 p.m. and read procedural announcements. There were no public comments.

Board members present: President Mike Dunn, Vice President John Andersen, Clerk Sandee Everett, Dr. Betsy Connolly, Mrs. Pat Phelps.

Administration present: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus, Superintendent; Mr. Robert Iezza, Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Services; Mr. Mark McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Dr. Victor Hayek, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services; Dr. Jennifer Boone, Director, Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Mrs. Jeanne Valentine, Director, Elementary Education; Dr. Juan Santos, Director, Student Support Services; Debbie Montgomery, Administrative Assistant.

Board members and the Superintendent discussed sessions they attended at the California School Boards Association Conference held December 1 through December 3, 2016, in San Francisco, California.

President Dunn adjourned the session at 5:25 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION**

There were no items for closed session.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**OPENING PROVISIONS**

Call to Order and Roll Call: President Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Board members present: President Mike Dunn, Vice President John Andersen, Clerk Sandee Everett, Dr. Betsy Connolly, Mrs. Pat Phelps.

Administration present: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus, Superintendent; Mr. Robert Iezza, Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Services; Mr. Mark McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Dr. Victor Hayek, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services; Debbie Montgomery, Administrative Assistant.

President Dunn welcomed attendees to the meeting and read the procedural announcements.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Mrs. Phelps moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Dr. Connolly. President Dunn if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Student Recognitions**

Kelly Welch, NPHS AP, introduced the NPHS Boys Cross Country Team – Marmonte League Champions  
Brad Katz, WHS AP, introduced the following teams and their coaches:

- WHS Girls Cross Country – Marmonte League Champions
- WHS Girls Golf – Marmonte League Champions and CIF Northern Division Team Championship
- WHS Girls Volleyball – Marmonte League Champions

## **Comments from the Public**

President Dunn asked if there were any public speakers. There were three speaker cards submitted.

Speaker #1 Olivia Braheem: spoke in support of the LGBT Community.

Speaker #2 Ella Fortney: supported instructional purpose of history and social science framework

Speaker #3 Bronie Brazier: voiced the importance of inclusion and validating LGBT students

## **Comments from the Superintendent**

Superintendent Ann Bonitatibus thanked Debbie Montgomery for filling in as Board Secretary at tonight's meeting. She wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

## **Comments from Individual Board of Education Members**

Mrs. Phelps thanked Debbie Montgomery for her years of service.

Dr. Connolly attended the State of the City address. The Conejo Valley is a great place to live and attracts many from throughout the world. She told about a parent that expressed her thanks to Dr. Connolly for Colina Middle School providing a great education for her children.

Mrs. Everett thanked those who attend the Board Meetings and share their thoughts. She attended the State of the City address and was pleased to hear about our great City.

## **Action Items – General**

### **Human Resources**

No items

### **Instructional Services**

#### **A. Approval of Replacement of Board Policy 6142.94- History-Social Science Instruction**

Mr. Dunn asked for Public Comment. There were eight speaker cards submitted.

##### **Public Comment**

Speaker #1 Mary Anne Van Zyle: urged the Board to adopt the policy under consideration

Speaker #2 Lucia Lemieux: stated the California Fair Education Act should be upheld

Speaker #3 Bonnie Shubb: supported recommended curriculum under the Fair Education Act

Speaker #4 Sarah Schwebdimann: encouraged the Board to support the policy as presented

Speaker #5 Betty Stapleford: advocated for uncensored curriculum and supported the policy

Speaker #6 Claire Fratello: stressed educational importance of social science framework

Speaker #7 Bill Gorback: yielded time to next speaker

Speaker #8 Colleen Briner-Schmidt: supported proposed policy and social science framework

Dr. Connolly made the motion to approve the replacement policy as written. Seconded by Mrs. Phelps. President Dunn called for discussion.

Mrs. Everett said she has received numerous emails sharing perspectives regarding this subject matter. The response underscores the importance of getting this policy correct. There are many supporting documents to the policy that need to be reviewed. She does not feel fully prepared and well-informed at this time. She made a motion to table the decision for a future meeting.

Dr. Connolly said that a motion had already been moved and seconded; consequently, the maker of the motion would need to withdraw it or a vote would need to be taken. Dr. Connolly said she would not withdraw her motion.

President Dunn said Mrs. Everett has the right to make a motion to table the decision for future consideration. Mrs. Everett said she wanted to amend the motion and table it. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion, provided that discussion was allowed.

Mr. Andersen asked Mrs. Everett how long she would need to review the subject matter. Mrs. Everett asked that the proposed policy be brought back to the Board on January 3<sup>rd</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Andersen asked if it needed to be brought back as an Information item. Mrs. Phelps said there is no need for it to be an Information item; it can be an action item. Mr. Andersen would like to share items for discussion, then have action.

Dr. Connolly expressed disappointment that the Board was not prepared to vote on the policy. She said the desire to do deep research is a result of the policy being against personal beliefs. The public is owed an explanation of how the research will be done. Mrs. Everett said it is not fair to say this comes from a personal bias and that she will not impose her personal beliefs on her decision making.

Dr. Connolly recommended the policy be presented at two meetings, so that it may be discussed prior to the vote. Mrs. Everett moved that the policy be tabled and brought to the Board as an Information/Discussion item on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and an Action item on January 17<sup>th</sup>; Mr. Andersen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **B. Approval of Replacement of Administrative Regulation 6143 – Courses of Study**

Mr. Andersen made the motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Phelps. President Dunn asked if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **C. Approval of Title I School-Level Parent Involvement Policies for Acadia, Conejo, Glenwood, Ladera, Maple and Walnut**

Mrs. Phelps made the motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Everett. President Dunn asked if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **D. Approval of Acceptance of the College Readiness Block Grant for 2016-2017**

Mr. Andersen made the motion to approve; seconded by Dr. Connolly. President Dunn asked if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Business Services**

### **A. Presentation: Dr. Victor Hayek – 2016-2017 First Interim Financial Statements**

Dr. Hayek's presented a report and asked for questions.

Dr. Connolly asked if there is a State cap on reserve funding. There is a minimum reserve of 3%, but not a maximum reserve. The Government Finance Officers Association recommends 17%. The Statewide average is 15%.

Dr. Hayek stated that one month of payroll is \$11.5m so our minimum reserve doesn't cover that expense.

Mrs. Everett asked for clarification regarding the zero cost of living adjustment (COLA). Dr. Hayek said employee raises are not based on the COLA percentage.

Mr. Andersen asked about the one-time funds. He noted that CalPERS and CalSTRS employer rates have increased extensively over the past few years. The cost must be paid by schools, not employees, and the District doesn't receive any additional funding to cover this expense.

Mrs. Phelps expressed that schools need good reserves in order to meet their expenses.

Dr. Hayek explained that funding is inadequate. Our expenses are rising, but our enrollment (on which our funding is based) is declining.

Dr. Bonitatibus said staff would be able to clarify SB799 regarding reserve caps.

### **B. Approval of 2016-2017 First Interim Report Financial Statements**

Mrs. Phelps made the motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Everett. President Dunn asked if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

## **ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT**

Mrs. Phelps made the motion to approve; seconded by Dr. Connolly. President Dunn asked if there was any discussion; there was none. Motion carried 5-0.

### **A. Approval of Minutes from the Board Meeting of December 6, 2016**

### **B. Personnel Assignment Orders**

### **C. Overnight Trip Request, NPHS Choir**

### **D. Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization**

### **E. Approval of the Addendum to the Certification of Signature 2016-2017**

### **F. Approval of Award- Demographic Studies – Cooperative Strategies**

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL – HUMAN RESOURCES**

No items

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL – BUSINESS SERVICES**

No Items

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL – INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

### **A. Conejo Valley Learning Center Update**

Dr. Ann Bonitatibus provided a Conejo Valley Learning Center (CVLC) Implementation Plan Staff Update. She reviewed the history of CVLC and future plans. The plan to relocate CVLC to the Waverly campus could be accomplished logistically and within budget. However, in consideration of the number of program disruptions that would occur with the Waverly plan, and in consideration of other needs throughout our school communities, staff had deep reservations about advancing the plan.

Dr. Bonitatibus indicated the CVLC vision as championed over the past twenty years, while an excellent concept, did not fit the current fiscal resources and program constructs in the District. In the absence of a ready site, the CVLC plan felt forced and not the right thing to do at this time. Therefore, staff will step back, reset the vision for alternative education options for high school students, and develop a systemic vision for Career Technical Education (CTE). It is important for a plan to be created, owned and implemented by current staff. Conejo Valley High School (CVHS) will be relocated temporarily to the Thousand Oaks High School (TOHS) campus. Dr. Bonitatibus thanked the staff of CVHS and TOHS in advance for their assistance.

In addition to the temporary relocation of CVHS to the TOHS campus, Waverly adult education enrollment will be capped and staff will need to explore which programs to relocate to help alleviate traffic in the surrounding neighborhood. Also, the parenting program at Horizon Hills will be aligned with current legislation. The Cerebral Palsy program will remain at the Waverly campus.

Mrs. Everett asked for clarification about CVHS' future. Dr. Bonitatibus explained there will be room at TOHS to temporarily relocate CVHS and the District won't compromise the CVHS program. The Superintendent met with CVHS staff and asked them to develop a new vision; form will follow function. Mrs. Everett asked if there will still be a CVLC; Dr. Bonitatibus said that is to be determined.

Dr. Connolly expressed that the CVLC plan would have provided engaging and well-deserved education. She challenged staff to find a way to meet the needs of our CVHS students. She doesn't believe CVHS will survive at TOHS. In the short-term, this will be a terrible blow to CVHS staff and students. TOHS has always had a reputation for collaboration, kindness, and inclusion. She expects innovative proposals to meet the needs of non-traditional learners.

Mr. Andersen thanked the staff for the work that they have done on this project. He echoed the concerns expressed by Dr. Connolly and Mrs. Everett. Career Technology Education (CTE) is important for developing our youth.

President Dunn asked if the ESL program will remain at its current site. Dr. Bonitatibus confirmed the ESL program will be on the Waverly campus in the Fall 2017.

Mr. Andersen thanked staff for having the courage to say that the plan needed to change.

### **Public Comment**

Speaker #1 Alan Grant: offered his assistance and support to staff relocating CVHS to TOHS

Speaker #2 Lisa Creps: stated that the Waverly neighborhood is encouraged by this plan

Speaker #3 Patrick Martinez: acknowledged efforts of Dr. Bonitatibus, Dr. Hayek, and the Board

Speaker #4 Joe Kirby: thanked the Board and Dr. Bonitatibus, apologizing for a previous reference

Speaker #5 Shellee Maine thanked the Board and Dr. Bonitatibus for not impacting the Waverly

neighborhood encouraged staff to bring the best to CVHS and CVUSD.

**B. Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 1230 – School-Connected Organizations**

Public Comment: There was one speaker card submitted.

Speaker #1 Paula Nathan: spoke in favor of strong policies that help students, staff and parents

President Dunn asked for discussion. Dr. Connolly asked if this was an amendment or a new policy. Bob Iezza responded that it is an amendment and new wording is in boldface print. Dr. Connolly said it is reasonable to ask people who are on our campuses to avoid bringing representations of alcohol, tobacco products, or controlled substances. She would like tobacco products included in the policy amendments.

Mr. Iezza said he will also amend the policy to include properties of the City and Recreation and Park District.

Dr. Connolly asked if state law prohibits a sealed bottle of alcohol from being in a gift basket on campus. Mr. Iezza confirmed that state law does prohibit this. The proposed amendments also address look-alikes.

Mr. Andersen asked for clarification if PTAs are school-connected organizations or state organizations. Mr. Iezza said PTAs and PFAs are school-connected organizations, in addition to booster clubs. He stated that PTA/PFA bylaws could address this subject matter.

**C. Approval of Amendments to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 3513.3 – Tobacco-Free Schools**

President Dunn asked for discussion. Mrs. Everett discussed with Mr. Iezza the emphasis on tobacco in the regulation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Dunn adjourned the Open Session at 9:09 p.m. **The next regularly-scheduled Board meeting will be Tuesday, January 3, 2017, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session and 6:00 p.m. Open Session** at the CVUSD South Building Board Room, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

December 13, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

December 13, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent