

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**January 11, 2005
MINUTES**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on January 11, 2005, at the District Office Board Room, 1400 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California.

ROLL CALL

Present were Board members Dorothy L. Beaubien, Dolores Didio, Mike Dunn, Patricia H. Phelps, and Dr. Timothy G. Stephens. Also present were Dr. Robert Fraisse, Superintendent, Dr. Richard Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, Dr. Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services, and Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, Linda Faverty, Director, Elementary Education, Sean Corrigan, Director, Planning and Facilities, and Cheryl Freitas, Administrator, Child Development, were also present.

CLOSED SESSION

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Dr. Timothy Stephens, President. The Board discussed appointment/employment of: Certificated: Teachers; Classified: Account Clerk, Audiovisual Electronics Technician, Child Care Assistant, Intermediate Clerk Typist, Paraprofessionals/Bilingual Spanish, Paraprofessionals/Special Ed, Senior Account Clerk, Senior Child Guidance Assistant, Senior Clerk Typist, Substitutes; Exempt: Specialists, Campus Supervisors, Student Helpers, Athletic Coaches; items of litigation and real property. The Closed Session ended at 5:55 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Stephens read announcements that reviewed instructions regarding smoking, cell phones, Speaker's Cards, Public Statement Cards, and Board procedures.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Phelps; student vote aye. Motion carried 5-0.

RECOGNITIONS

The following Marmonte League Championships were recognized: Newbury Park High School Girls Volleyball, Thousand Oaks High School Girls Cross Country, and Westlake High School Girls Golf Team.

REPORTS FROM STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Chaddy Elhawary, Westlake High School, was seated with the Board. Chaddy, along with Katie Smith, Newbury Park High School, and Nicholas Vavasseur, Century/Conejo Valley High Schools, reported on campus events such as Job Shadow Day, fund raisers for the tsunami efforts, winter rallies, dances, assemblies, band and choral events, club event, academic decathlon preparation, theater events, financial aid workshops, talent show, academic programs, and school-to-career events. It was also mentioned

that our new stadiums weathered the rains so well that we were able to offer usage to other schools whose fields were flooded! Bryn Sowa, Thousand Oaks High School, was not present.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dianne McKay, Chair, District Advisory Council, stated that DAC is waiting to hear from the Traffic Department to attend a future meeting.

Sue Wells, President, Conejo Council PTA, was excited to report that 40 entries were honored at the 12th District PTA Reflections Reception recently, with 18 awards of merit, 17 high commendations and 5 awards of excellence. The Council will be hosting an Internet Safety parent education night on January 25 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Thousand Oaks High School Performing Arts Center.

There was no report from the Bond Facility Projects District Advisory Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Fraise praised the community's passing of the Measure R, which resulted in millions of dollars of upgrades and repairs to the schools, ultimately saving the schools from disaster during the heavy rains over the past couple of weeks. He asked Sean Corrigan, Director, Planning and Facilities, to give a facilities report. Mr. Corrigan confirmed that the effect of the Measure R money resulted in dry, safe schools with few exceptions such as clogged drains, a tree branch falling on a child care portable roof, and other similar problems. Compared to the problems with rain pre-bond, the schools fared extremely well! All schools were open and all classrooms were operable with the opening of school after the winter break. Dr. Fraise also thanked the City of Thousand Oaks for their \$3.1 million contribution for reconstruction of the stadiums, stating that our high schools were able to host other districts' games because their fields had been flooded out!

Dr. Fraise continued his comments with information regarding the Governor's proposed budget, asking how can a public school system survive with shrinking revenues? He stated that \$9.8 billion (translating to several million in our District) was cut in public education in California over the past several years. *Education Week* cites California as 44th in the United States in per pupil spending. The recent Rand Study puts California at the bottom of all spending categories nation-wide, including salaries being among the lowest when the cost-of-living is factored in. More information will be forthcoming once the Governor's budget is approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Anderson, Newbury Park, asked that the Board consider scheduling meetings on other nights of the week and commented that the District's curriculum should be available for review by all parents.

Jeff Blum, Thousand Oaks, represented the "Civility in Public Meetings" coalition asking for respectful and courteous communication at public meetings.

Mary Freed, Thousand Oaks, announced a new organization "Coalition of Compassion," a service organization with representation from around the community to help with the tsunami relief. On January 17 at 7:00 p.m. there will be a meeting at the St. Julie Bulliert Catholic Church in Newbury Park.

Anne King, Thousand Oaks, spoke about the concern of parents at Wildwood Elementary School after a traffic accident occurred in front of the school, and asked for the Board's support with their request to the traffic commission to control the speed around the school. Dr. Baarstad stated that the streets are City property and that the City has formulas regarding speed limits, speed bumps, etc. However, the District can certainly support the requests of parents in regard to child safety.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Beaubien expressed her sympathy and concern for the family of Dr. Neil Schmidt, who passed away in December. Dr. Schmidt was an interim superintendent during the 2001-2002 school year for our District.

Mrs. Beaubien, in response to Dr. Fraisse's budget comments, stated that our schools are great and our children are receiving a great education in spite of the serious funding problems. This is a tribute to our superintendent, staff, and students.

Mrs. Phelps stated that some of the reasons that our District is still successful during the budget crisis is because we recruit excellent teachers, have excellent students and have the support of our parents and community! However, we have depended on them more and more over the years through budget cuts, but there are certain things that cannot be funded by parents and fundraisers. These are the things that are now being cut into – and it's going to hurt a lot. Mrs. Phelps encouraged the community to write and communicate their concerns.

Mrs. Didio pointed out that our District has been working hard to protect programs such as the arts and music programs, but that our community needs to prepare for some possible cuts in programs due to the continued excessive cuts in the budget ahead of us.

Dr. Stephens stated that the Rand Report was very critical of public education in California due to an erosion of the funding sources. Immediately after the Rand report was released, the Governor proposed cuts in the area of \$2 billion statewide, and to suspend Proposition 98 (guarantees schools a percentage of the state budget). However, due to the superb management of the budget in our District, we've been able to maintain. Dr. Stephens referred to the superintendent's Winter Report 2004 and stated his support of Dr. Fraisse's report. Dr. Stephens asked parents, staff and community to email or write to the governor about the proposed budget cuts in education.

PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT ORDERS

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #7004 to #7007; Classified #C-2413 - #C-2445; and Exempt #E-5657 - #E-5682, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

2004/2005 SCHOOL PLANS

Mrs. Phelps moved to approve the 2004/2005 elementary and secondary School Plans for Student Achievement, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

FAMILY LIFE MATERIALS

Mrs. Didio moved to approve videos #1 and #2 as recommended by the Family Life Materials Review committee, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #2 filed.

BOUNDARY MODIFICATION

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the boundary change and enrollment recommendations, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Mrs. Didio and Dr. Stephens thanked Sean Corrigan for the new boundary maps that they

requested. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #3 filed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0. Mrs. Phelps thanked all the cash and equipment donors for supporting our schools. Regular Meeting of December 14, 2004; A.R.s filed: A.R. #4 Expulsion: Newbury Park High School #9-04/05E; A.R. #5 Expulsion: Conejo Valley High School #10-04/05E; A.R. #6 Expulsion: Conejo Valley High School #11-04/05E; A.R. #7 Newbury Park High School #12-04/05E; A.R. #8 Colina Middle School #13-04/05E; A.R. #9 Westlake High School #14-04/05E; A.R. #10 Overnight Trip Request: Thousand Oaks High School Track and Field; #A.R. #11 Overnight Trip Request: Westlake High School Baseball Team; A.R. #12 Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Walnut Elementary School Script Booster Club; A.R. #13 Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Newbury Park High School Girls Volleyball Booster Club; A.R. #14 Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Thousand Oaks High School Girls Volleyball Booster Club; A.R. #15 Purchase Order Report #656; A.R. #16 Cash and Equipment Donation; A.R. #17 Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment; A.R. #18 Change Order #1: Redwood Middle School – Installation of One Modular Elevator; A.R. #19 Change Order #1: Acacia/University Elementary Schools – Phase 1 Modernization; A.R. #20 Change Order #3: Newbury Park High/Madroña Elementary Schools – Phase 1 Modernization – Century Contractors, Corp.; A.R. #21 Change Order #4: Newbury Park High/Madroña Elementary Schools – Phase 1 Modernization – Century Contractors, Corp; A.R. #22 Notice of Completion: Acacia and University Elementary Schools – Phase 1 Modernization.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Personnel Services

1. Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the District and the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter 620. There was no discussion.

B. Instructional Services

1. Fee Increase – Child Care Program 2005-2006. Mrs. Dido asked when the last increase was; Mrs. Freitas replied that this would be the first increase in eight years. However, we are still considerably below the private sector. Dr. Stephens asked if we have wait lists; Mrs. Freitas replied yes, about 250 children at 23 sites.
2. Policy #433: Intradistrict Attendance – School Choice Amendment. Mrs. Beaubien asked if a student moving into a school area would have a seat if the school were full; Dr. Simpson explained that we try to keep a cushion for this situation at each grade level, but occasionally these seats have been given to other students who have moved in. If this happens, the child would be displaced to the closest school, and then room would be made available for the next school year.

ITEMS OF LEGISLATION

There were none.

ITEMS FROM THE PERSONNEL COMMISSION

There were none.

