

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

**January 22, 2002**

**MINUTES**

**(Adopted)**

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on January 22, 2002, at the District Office Board Room, 1400 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Present were Board members, Dorothy L. Beaubien, Mary Jo Del Campo, Dolores Didio, Patricia H. Phelps and Timothy G. Stephens. Also present were Neil Schmidt, Interim Superintendent, Richard W. Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services; Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, Linda Vranesh, Director, Elementary Education, Sheila Carlson, Director, Staff Development and Grants, and Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum/Media Services, were also in attendance.

**ROLL CALL**

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mary Jo Del Campo, President. The Board discussed appointment/employment of Certificated: teachers; Classified: clerk typists, instructional assistants/Bilingual Spanish, instructional assistant/Special Education, principal account clerk, substitutes; Exempt: specialists, campus supervisors, student helpers, proctor, athletic coaches. The closed session ended at 6:55 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:02 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

President Del Campo led the Pledge of Allegiance and read announcements for the Board meeting that reviewed instructions regarding smoking, cell phones, Speaker's Cards, Public Statement Cards, and where the public can find agendas and Board procedure information.

**PLEDGE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda with the request to remove A.R. #7, High School Course and Text Modifications, for discussion, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

President Del Campo introduced Dr. Sheila Carlson, Director, Staff Development and Grants. Dr. Carlson provided background information regarding the Auto Mall involvement and donations to the Title 1 schools in our District: Conejo, Glenwood, Manzanita, Park Oaks, and Walnut Elementary Schools. Thanks to: Courtesy Chevrolet, Honda of Thousand Oaks, Infinity of Thousand Oaks, Kemp Ford, Ladin Lincoln Mercury, Mazda, Subaru, & Suzuki of Thousand Oaks, Neftin Westlake Volvo/Volkswagen, Rusnak Westlake, Saturn of Thousand Oaks, Shaver Pontiac/Jeep, Silver Star Mercedes-Benz/Jaguar of Thousand Oaks, Silver Star Motor Automotive Group, Silver Star Motor Car Company Lexus, Saab, Cadillac, Hummer, Land Rover, Westlake Motors, Westoaks Chrysler-Dodge and Isuzu.

**AUTO MALL RECOGNITION**

Dr. Pam Chasse, principal, Sycamore Canyon Elementary School, along with PTA leaders Kathleen Fischer, Tina Grumney, and Rose Quesada, presented a lively report on the history and future of the school.

**REPORTS  
SYCAMORE  
CANYON**

Rebecca Loving Nichols, District Advisory Council chairperson, reported on the events of the last meeting, including a report from the homework committee, impact of the State budget reductions, bond status, and concerns regarding campus supervisors. The DAC Executive Board presented a motion to recommend that the Board of Education provide support at the District level for campus supervision in the areas of common job descriptions, basic training to include safety and conflict resolution, and common evaluation criteria. The Board responded that they would look into the issue.

**DAC**

Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, presented an outline of the State budget overview, the Governor's proposed mid-year cuts, the District's current budget year, proposed solutions to the upcoming State-imposed budget cuts, and projections for year 2002-2003.

**BUDGET**

Dr. Schmidt: 1) attended a business roundtable at the Civic Arts Plaza, which was coordinated by the School-to-Career staff at NPHS, TOHS, and WHS and community business leaders. This event was a great example of how the community can connect with the schools, and how the schools can learn more about what the business community is looking for from our graduates. 2) enjoyed the "Symphonic Adventures" event at the Civic Arts Plaza, which gives 3rd grade students the opportunity to experience many types of music in a concert setting. The Adventure was conducted by Maestro Boris Bratt, who interacted with the students to create a great experience for everyone. 3) thanked the Child Care group at Madroña Elementary School for their display in the lobby of the South Building—*Portraits of Snowmen*. Dr. Schmidt commended the District for the many opportunities students have to participate in arts programs. The lobby exhibit rotates monthly. 4) congratulated Dan McQuerrey, 3rd grade teacher at Maple Elementary School, for his selection as Teacher of the Month for January. 5) thanked the Auto Mall for the generosity and support of our children's education.

**SUPT.  
REMARKS**

Stan McClain, President, CSEA, stated that on Monday, January 14, CSEA ratified the changes to the contract. He also urged the Board to consider looking at new positions and programs that were put in place, and keep classified positions that are vital to the District.

**PUBLIC  
CONCERNS**

Suzanne Duckett voiced her concern about the budget deficit, questioned land appropriation by Board vote regarding Sycamore Canyon Elementary School, and stated that she did not want Sycamore Canyon students to attend other schools, such as Redwood Middle School, because of lack of space. Dr. Schmidt clarified that school property size is determined by many factors and varies according to the population of the school and the geographical location. He assured her that ten acres would be very adequate for a small K-8 school. He also stated that if middle school students from that area did have to attend another middle school, it would be Sequoia Middle School, which has adequate room. Mrs. Didio stated that prior to unification

and the Dos Vientos development, all of our schools were built on property less than ten acres.

**PUBLIC  
CONCERNS  
(CONT.)**

Kathy Swindle commented about the budget reduction, proposed cuts in personnel and the impact on the schools. Ms. Swindle asked that the burden of the cuts not be placed on classified personnel. Mrs. Didio stated that some districts are looking to increase class sizes in order to balance their budgets.

Mrs. Beaubien thanked the staff for the excellent work on the Annual Report and thanked Martha Mutz for inviting Board members to participate in the *We the People* program at California Lutheran University.

**BOARD  
REMARKS**

Dr. Stephens commended teachers and principals for the District's API scores. Dr. Stephens also mentioned the business roundtable breakfast and that two themes were prevalent: relevancy and connection - that students needed to see the relevancy and connection of what they learn in school to the world of work. The business leaders stated that writing is an important skill for employees. Dr. Stephens thanked Chuck Eklund for coordinating the roundtable with the business leaders.

Mrs. Del Campo commented on the PTA Reflections awards program and how rewarding it is to see the work from students of all ages.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #6038 - #6042, Classified #C-0761 - #C-0779 and Exempt #E-3116 - #E-3141, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

**PAO'S**

Mrs. Phelps moved to renew the retainer agreement with the law firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for the 2002 calendar year and pay the firm an annual retainer of \$30,450.00 to represent the Conejo Valley Unified School District in employer-employee relation matters and contract negotiations as specified in the retainer agreement; seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**CONTRACT  
APPROVAL**

Dr. Stephens moved to expel student #15-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective December 11, 2001, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated December 17, 2001; and readmit student 15-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 15-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #02 filed.

**EXPULSIONS**

Mrs. Didio moved to expel student #16-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective January 8, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated January 8, 2002; and readmit student 16-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 16-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #03 filed.

Mrs. Phelps moved to expel student #17-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified

School District effective January 10, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the “Voluntary Consent to Discipline” signed and dated January 10, 2002; and readmit student 17-0102E to the District’s Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County’s Community School Program; and permit student 17-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #04 filed.

EXPULSIONS

Mrs. Beaubien moved to readmit student 26-00/01E to Los Cerritos Middle School effective January 28, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #5 filed.

READMITS

Mrs. Didio moved to readmit student 32-00/01E to Sequoia Middle School effective January 28, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #6 filed.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Mrs. Phelps mentioned that she was annoyed at the fact that the State demands soil testing and then charges exorbitant fees during a time when they also impose budget cuts. Motion carried 5-0. A.R.s filed: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of January 8, 2002; AR. #8—Parent/Support Booster Organization: Maple Elementary PFA; A.R. #9—Resolution #0102-9 California State University Channel Islands Professional Development Charter School Participation; A.R. #10—High School English Reading Adoption Augmentation; A.R. #11—Overnight Trip Request: Thousand Oaks High School Dance Team; A.R. #12—Purchase Order Report #597; A.R. #13—Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment; A.R. #14—2000-01 Annual Audit Report of District Financial Statements: Quezada & Company; A.R. #15—Notice of Completion: Madroña Elementary, Modtech, Inc.; A.R. #16—Thousand Oaks High School, Technology Wiring; A.R. #17—Manzanita Elementary School, Technology Wiring; A.R. #18—Various School Sites, Technology Wiring; A.R. #19—Various School Sites, Communication Systems Contract.

CONSENT  
AGENDA

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve A.R. #7—High School Course and Text Modifications; seconded by Dr. Stephens. Ethel Larisey submitted a public statement card and expressed her concern about the District limiting one-semester electives in the arts for the students, and that the curriculum seems to be driven by University of California requirements even though there are many students who are not college bound that would benefit greatly by the classes. Mrs. Didio asked if there was some way to have two levels in the same class. Dr. Simpson summarized that with the new requirements of the University of California, the arts electives programs are being reviewed with recommendations from staff. Mrs. Phelps voiced her concern about teacher availability for one-semester classes. Mr. Eklund assured her a variety of one-semester classes would be available for students, as long as the spring enrollment results in these classes being in demand. Mrs. Phelps mentioned that it would be interesting to see how these changes would affect summer school. Mrs. Beaubien spoke to the value of the arts classes for the non-college bound students. Mrs. Del Campo agreed that both levels should be kept, and that counselors should talk to students about which classes should be made available. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #7 was filed.

**INFORMATION**

**INFO.**

The Board received information on Policy 474.4 Reporting of Child Abuse – Amendment. There was no discussion.

Items of legislation: Dr. Schmidt stated that the legislature is in session and bills are being proposed. Staff will report back to the Board on those bills we wish to support.

**ITEMS OF LEG.**

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

**PERS. COMM.**

President Del Campo adjourned the regular session at 8:45 p.m. The Board will convene on Tuesday, February 12, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

**ADJOURN**

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February 12, 2002  
Date Clerk

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February 12, 2002  
Date Secretary