

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

March 13, 2001

MINUTES

(adopted)

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 13, 2001, 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 Jerry C. Gross, Superintendent; Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Richard W. Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services; and Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Staff present during the Regular Session included Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education and Linda Vranesh, Director, Elementary Education.

ROLL CALL

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Patricia H. Phelps, President. The Board discussed certificated administrators and teachers; classified health clerks, instructional assistant/bilingual Spanish, site computer technician, substitutes; exempt specialists, student helpers, campus supervisors, proctors, athletic coaches. The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:07 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

President Phelps led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Student vote: Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Melissa Kindschi, Newbury Park High School, was seated with the Board. Melissa, Billy MacKelvey, Century/Conejo Valley High School, Carly Maygren, Thousand Oaks High School and Megan Shirey, Westlake High School reported on various events at the schools such as talent shows, multi-cultural events, WASC accreditation at Conejo Valley High School, fund raisers, Pi competitions at Westlake High School, academic awards nights, new landscaping at Thousand Oaks High School, and International Baccalaureate events at Newbury Park High School.

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Max Beaman, principal, Newbury Park High School, introduced Nori Parvin, head coach, Newbury Park High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team. Ms. Parvin presented certificates of congratulations to the team for winning the Marmonte League Championship, and commended the team members for back-to-back championships.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Beaman introduced Guy Sanford, head coach of the Newbury Park High School Boys' Varsity Soccer Team. Mr. Sanford and assistant coach, Mark Carlson, presented certificates of congratulations to the team for winning the Marmonte League Championship.

Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, presented information regarding the Marmonte League Rule Change. This rule states that students who leave their school of residence are ineligible for varsity athletic participation for a period of one calendar year. There is an

STAFF REPORT: MARMONTE

appeal process wherein parents may appeal through written request. A Marmonte League panel will consider all requests. Mr. Eklund’s report included information on the District’s non-neighborhood athletic participation, which is very low overall.

**LEAGUE
(CONT.)**

Dr. Gross 1) congratulated Jennifer Fry, Meadows Elementary School teacher, for being honored as *Teacher of the Year* (1999-2000) by the Chamber of Commerce at their Annual Banquet. 2) also congratulated Martha Sweeney, Westlake Hills Elementary School teacher, as the Chamber’s March *Teacher of the Month* – congratulations! 3) commented that the annual Career Faire at the Oak Mall was a huge success. He thanked the many professionals in our community for their participation and the deans at the high schools for organizing the event. 4) congratulated students Laura De La Rosa from Sequoia Middle School and Calvin Wiley from Weathersfield Elementary School as the co-winners for this year’s Spelling Bee, sponsored by the Ventura County Star. Dr. Gross also thanked Krista Pederson, teacher-coordinator from Madroña Elementary School for coordinating the program. 5) stated that in regard to the tragedy at Santana High School in Santee, California, March 5, he will be sending a letter to each of the CVUSD families with emphasis on how we can continue to improve safety in our District. The letter will also announce the establishment of a District Hot Line as another avenue for students and citizens to report anything that they feel may threaten their safety or the safety of others. He appealed to all students that it is an act of courage, responsibility and duty to your peers and family to let authorities know of any suspected act of violence. Dr. Gross and the Board extended their heartfelt thoughts to the families impacted by the violence at Santana High School. 6) discussed a phone call he received from an organization, Save the Conejo 2000, that has asked the District to participate in a Town Hall meeting later this month regarding educational issues. Dr. Gross and the Board invited members of the organization to Board meetings where the Board and staff are on hand to answer questions. He reminded members of the organization that the Board held a public Special Meeting on Facilities on February 27 and the meeting is currently being televised. Future Board facilities meetings are planned and will be open to the public.

**SUPT.
REMARKS**

Patti Yomantas reported for the Conejo Council PTA and the Bond Facility Projects District Advisory Committee. She reported both Los Cerritos Middle School and Meadows Elementary will be honored for outstanding programs at the State convention in San José in April. Mrs. Yomantas presented information on the high school PTA programs in which students are involved. At Thousand Oaks High School, there are more than 60 active student members who are involved in fund-raising activities for scholarships, ushering at back-to-school nights, run the Manna drive, and several other activities. At Westlake High School the PTSA organization has instituted an after-school tutoring program to help students in many areas. Mrs. Yomantas also mentioned that Dr. Pam Chasse, principal of Sycamore Canyon Elementary, is already organizing a PTA for the new school and there are many parents anxious to begin the program.

**DISTRICT
COMM.**

Regarding the Bond Facility Projects District Advisory Committee, Mrs. Yomantas reported that the last meeting of the committee was March 1. At that time, Dr. Elly Love, principal, Los Cerritos Middle School, George Coyle, principal, Madroña Elementary, and Jim Baird, principal, Maple Elementary, all gave reports on bond projects at their respective school sites. Mrs. Yomantas said that at this time most of the current bond resources are directed toward the middle school gyms, the pool at Westlake High School, and the upper grade wing at Westlake Hills Elementary. The advisory committee has been informed that an audit has begun of all Measure R expenditures to date.

There was no report from the District Advisory Council.

Debbie Bavaro voiced her concerns about the District's plan to dispose of the school site on Newbury Park Road. She stated her concern for an alternative learning center. Dr. Gross mentioned to Mrs. Bavaro that the plan is to rebuild a facility for continuation students and that the current structure is very old.

**PUBLIC
CONCERNS**

Cal Johnston presented information about the Boys and Girls Club. The organization would like to build six facilities in the area, four in Conejo Valley, one in Agoura and one in Calabasas. The program serves students during before- and after-school hours. There are 2,700 clubs nationally, serving over 3 million children, and all are staff by professionals. The proposal is to build the clubs on the middle school campuses next to the gymnasiums. Mr. Johnston distributed literature about the clubs to the Board members, and expressed his desire to meet with the Board again regarding the proposal.

Dr. Gerry Langer mentioned that an organization, Save the Conejo 2000, plans to hold a Town Hall meeting on March 31 at the Grant Brimhall Library to discuss issues regarding education. Mr. Langer stated that Drew Griffin, anchor for Channel 2 News, would mediate the meeting, and that the meeting will be televised by Adelphia. He stated that the purpose of the meeting is to "bring together everybody who is concerned about children and education, school board members, concerned parents and taxpayers." Mr. Langer said that Save the Conejo 2000 is not a political organization, nor does it have a slate.

Mrs. Phelps thanked Dr. Langer for coming, and stated that the Board and staff do have questions about the proposed Town Hall meeting. Dr. Stephens questioned why the Board and District staff were not involved in the planning of the Town Hall meeting if the focus is on education; Dr. Langer responded that Save the Conejo 2000 see their role as facilitators of the meeting. Mrs. Phelps asked if the panel has been finalized; Dr. Langer responded no. Dr. Stephens stated that it would seem that a Town Hall meeting would be more effective if the School District, City, and Park and Recreation entities would have been also involved in the planning; Dr. Langer responded that Save the Conejo 2000 wanted it to be an independent effort. Mrs. Didio asked what the topic of the forum would be; Dr. Langer responded the school populations, school facilities, the need for another middle school and school finances would be some of the topics. Mrs. Didio commented that these are all School District issues, and that in addition to School Board Meetings, the District held a public study session on facilities February 27, at which time the District proposed more facilities meetings in the future. She also mentioned that all of the School Board meetings are televised, including the study sessions. She commented that District staff is available to respond to questions during these meetings, but may not be able to be in attendance at the Town Hall meeting. She pointed out that a comment by a member of Save the Conejo 2000 was printed in the *Star* and was incorrect and inflated. She encouraged people to come to the School Board meetings for any questions they may have about the School District. Mrs. Beaubien reminded Dr. Langer that members of Save the Conejo 2000 have exaggerated figures, especially in regard to the Dos Vientos project, on several occasions, even after being corrected. Mrs. Del Campo stated that she had been involved in the initial conversation when the statement was made that the Town Hall meeting was going to be co-sponsored by Channel 2 CBS, and it would be aired on the 6:00 p.m. news. Dr. Gross called CBS Channel 2 and was told that this information was incorrect, and in fact, would not sponsor this meeting. Mrs. Del Campo established that correct information is crucial to the Board and District, and this type of false information is very disturbing. Dr. Langer said that this was not his understanding and it was the first time he heard it. Mrs. Del Campo said that perhaps the people who are speaking for the organization are giving inaccurate information. Dr. Langer stated that he shared her concern. Mrs. Phelps thanked Dr. Langer for answering questions from the Board and staff.

Dr. Stephens commented on a trip that several Board members, District Office staff, and high school principals made to Elk Grove Unified School District to visit its high school academies. He commented on several of the programs the group witnessed and commended Elk Grove for its excellent programs. Dr. Stephens was very impressed with the fact that the students involved in the programs were so involved that the principal commented that many times the teachers have to make the students go home! He stated that he hopes that the Conejo Valley Unified School District will be able to continue to establish academies at our high schools.

**BOARD
REMARKS**

Mrs. Del Campo commended Dr. Gross for establishing a Hot Line program for students. She also commended the organizers of the District Career Faire held at the Oaks Mall.

Mrs. Phelps congratulated Jennifer Fry as the Chamber Teacher of the Year and mentioned her exceptional educational and community efforts. She also mentioned that she attended the Sycamore Canyon Elementary School PTA meeting last week and was very moved by Dr. Chasse's enthusiasm and vision for the new school. Mrs. Phelps thanked the 6th grade students from Los Cerritos who, upon their return from Outdoor School, sent the Board "thank you" letters.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the 2001 Summer Board Meeting Schedule, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION
SUMMER
SCHEDULE**

The summer Board Meeting Schedule will be July 10, 2001 and August 21, 2001.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #5484 - #5515, Classified #C-0239 - #C-0262 and #E-2406 - #E-2427, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

PAO'S

Mrs. Phelps announced the following Extended Summer School assignments:

- Bernie Carr, Summer School/Extended Year Principal, Grades Pre "K" and Grades K-5, for the summer of 2001, at 90% of the appropriate daily rate for Class IX, Step E on the management salary schedule for the six-week period June 21, 2001, through July 26, 2001, plus five additional days for administrative responsibility; and
- Margaret Saleh, Summer School/Extended Year Principal, Grades 9-12, for the summer of 2001, at 90% of the appropriate daily rate for Class V, Step A on the management salary schedule for the six-week period of June 21, 2001, through August 2, 2001, plus five additional days for administrative responsibility; and
- Martin Manzer, Summer School/extended Year Assistant Principal, grades 9-12, at 90% of the daily rate on Class X, Step E of the management salary schedule, from June 21, 2001, through August 2, 2001, plus five additional days; and
- Mike Waters, Summer School/Extended Year Assistant Principal, Grades 608, at 90% of the daily rate on Class X, Step E of the management schedule, from June 21, 2001, through August 2, 2001, plus five additional days; and
- Neil Snyder, Summer School/Extended Year Coordinator, Pre "K" and Grades K-5, at 90% of the daily rate on Class XIII, Step E of the management salary schedule, from June 21, 2001, through July 26, 2001, plus five additional days; and

- Joanne Scaglione, Summer School/Extended Year Coordinator, Pre “K” and Grades 2-5, at 905 of the daily rate on Class XIII, Step E of the management salary schedule, from June 21, 2001, through July 26, 2001, plus five additional days.

**PAO’S
(CONT.)**

Dr. Stephens moved to Adopt Policy 725.2.4.1—District Assets and Inventory (Second Reading); seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #2 filed.

**ADOPT/
AMEND
POLICIES**

Mrs. Del Campo moved to Adopt Policy 725.2.4.2—Sale and Disposal of Personal Property (Second Reading); seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #3 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to Amend Policy 156.2—Conflict of Interest-Designated Positions (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #4 filed.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to Amend Policy 230—District Office Line and Special Staff Administrators (First Reading); seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #5 filed.

Dr. Stephens moved to Amend Policy 330—General Organizational Plan (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #6 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to Amend Policy 343.2.2—Staff Development Schedule (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #7 filed.

Mrs. Del Campo moved to Amend Policy 500—Certificated and Other Personnel (First Reading); seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #8 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to Adopt Policy 520.2—Legal Status Requirement (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Mrs. Didio asked that the word “aliens” be changed to “non-citizens.” This was agreed to. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #9 filed.

Dr. Stephens moved to Amend Policy 539—Dismissal (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #10 filed.

Mrs. Del Campo moved to Amend Policy 600—Classified Personnel (First Reading); seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #11 filed.

Mrs. Phelps commended the staff for all the work and effort to process Board Policy.

Mrs. Phelps opened a Public Hearing for District Response to UACT Initial Contract Proposal at 8:30 p.m. Public Hearing closed at 8:31 p.m. There was no discussion.

**PUBLIC
HEARING**

Mrs. Del Campo stated that due to lack of funds and lack of work, the Board of Education finds it is in the best interest of the School District to direct the Superintendent to commence implementing procedures to Delete a Secretary Position in the Special Education Department; effective April 17, 2001. The layoff proceedings will be under the provisions of CSEA Contract of Agreement between the District and Chapter 620 CSEA and the California Education Code; seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #12 filed.

**DELETE
CLASS.
POSITION**

Dr. Stephens moved for Renewal of Retainer Agreement with the Law Firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for the 2001 Calendar Year; seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #13 filed.

**RENEW
RETAINER
AGREEMENT**

Mrs. Didio moved to Readmit Expelled Student #19-9900E to an appropriate school or program as determined by staff; seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #14 filed.

**READMIT
EXPELLED
STUDENT**

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the 2001-02 General Fund Initial Budget Forecast; seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Mrs. Phelps questioned the effect of unexcused absences when computing ADA. Mr. Mortimer responded that the State instituted a system a couple of years ago that does not factor unexcused absences. Mrs. Phelps commented that parents are still being told that unexcused absences affect ADA. Dr. Simpson stated that we are still required by the State to report unexcused absences for SARB and other funding sources. Mrs. Didio questioned the possibility of separating the Lottery from the General Fund; Mr. Mortimer responded that this could be done. Mrs. Didio also commented that it would appear that the District is into deficit spending, to which Mr. Mortimer stated that the Forecast does not include carry over amounts. However, the 2001-02 budget will be a very tight budget. Dr. Stephens questioned whether the BTSA budget would be renewed; Dr. Dunlap responded that the funding for BTSA from the State this year will cover the budget for the teachers and program needs. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #15 filed.

**2001-02 GEN.
FUND INIT.
BUDGET
FORECAST**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Mrs. Del Campo. Motion carried 5-0. A.R.'s filed: Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 27, 2001; A.R. #16—Child Care Procedures; A.R. #17—Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Conejo Elementary Parent Faculty Association; A.R. #18—Field Trip Request-Maple Elementary School; A.R. #19—Boat Trip Request-Newbury Park High School Marine Biology Class; A.R. #20—Overnight Trip Request-Newbury Park High School Concert Choir; A.R. #21—Overnight Trip Request-Thousand Oaks High School Color Guard; A.R. #22—Purchase Order Report #580; A.R. #23-Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment; A.R. #24—District Application-Joint Use Facilities Funding; A.R. #25—Notice of Completion: Cypress Elementary—Coordinated Construction; A.R. #26—Notice of Completion: Los Cerritos—CNM Paving, Inc.; A.R. #27—Notice of Completion: Pilot Restroom Renovations—Cohen Construction; A.R. #28—Notice of Completion: Various School Sites—Ben's Asphalt, Inc.; A.R. #29—Notice of Completion: Westlake High School-Century Constructors.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

INFORMATION

The Board received information regarding Amend Policy 501—Equal Employment Opportunity; there was no discussion.

**AMEND
POLICY 501**

The Board received information regarding Academic Performance Index Award Budgets. Dr. Stephens asked what the total amount for our District would be; Dr. Simpson responded that we expect just over \$1 million. Dr. Stephens commended the teachers for earning these funds. Dr. Gross reported that Dr. Simpson conducted a study of all the districts throughout California, and our District is the smallest that will receive over \$1 million.

**API AWARD
BUDGET**

The Board received information regarding Grant for Visual and Performing Arts from the State of California; there was no discussion.

**GRANT
VIS/PERF.
ARTS**

The Board received information regarding the 2001-2002 Budget Allocation Formulas; there was no discussion.

**2001-2002
BUDGET
ALLOCATION
FORMULAS**

There were no items of Legislation.

LEGIS.

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

PERS. COMM.

President Phelps adjourned the regular session at 8:45 p.m. to reconvene on March 27, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

ADJOURN

_____ March 27, 2001 _____
Date Clerk

_____ March 27, 2001 _____
Date Secretary