

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING****March 30, 2010
MINUTES****CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION**

The Board meeting of March 30, 2010, was called to order by President Pat Phelps at 5:09 p.m. at 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA. Mrs. Phelps asked if there were any public speakers for the Closed Session agenda items; there were none. The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 5:10 p.m., where the following items were discussed:

- A. Public Employee Appointment-Employment (*Pursuant to Government Code §5495*)
 - 1. See Section IV. Action Items – Consent - Personnel/Assignment Orders
- B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (*Pursuant to Government Code §5495*)
 - 1. See Section IV. Action Items – Consent - Personnel/Assignment Orders
- C. Labor Negotiations (*Pursuant to Government Code §54957*)
Timothy Carpenter, Negotiator, CVUSD
UACT, CSEA, CVPPA
- D. Consideration of Student Discipline (*Pursuant to Education Code §48900, et seq.*)
- E. Pending Litigation (*Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1(a)(3)*)
- F. Consideration of Pupil Services Matter (*Pursuant to Government Code §35146*)

The Closed Session ended at 6:09 p.m. There were no announcements from Closed Session.

CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

Mrs. Phelps called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Present were Board members Peggy Buckles, Dr. Betsy Connolly, Mike Dunn, Pat Phelps, and Dr. Timothy Stephens. Administration: Mario V. Contini, Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Deputy Superintendent, Timothy Carpenter, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services, Janet Cosaro, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, Robert Iezza, Director, Elementary Education, Dr. Jeff Davis, Director, Secondary Education and Marina Mihalevsky, Director, Classified Personnel.

Mrs. Phelps led the Pledge of Allegiance and read the procedural announcements. Mrs. Phelps requested that public speakers who wish to address an agenda topic do so under the topic when it is called for discussion. Regarding the agenda topics of District Budget Committee Initial Recommendations for 2010-2011 Budget and Final Facilities Proposal for BRIDGES Charter School, the follow procedures will be followed: before a motion is made, staff will make a presentation, the Board will then discuss and ask questions, public comments will be heard, and then a motion will be made. She also stated that if there are more than 20 speakers per topic, the time will be limited to 2 minutes on that topic.

OPENING PROVISIONS**Approval of the Agenda**

Mrs. Buckles moved to approve the Agenda with the following change: switch items III. G. Final Facilities Proposal for BRIDGES Charter School and III. H. District Budget Committee Initial Recommendations for 2010-2011 Budget, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

Comments from the Superintendent

There were none.

Comments from the Public

One public speaker spoke in opposition to Proposition 39, which requires public schools to provide facilities to charter schools.

Comments from Individual Board Members

Mrs. Buckles discussed her school site visits to Wildwood and Westlake Hills Elementary Schools. She also commended those involved with the TEDxConejo Conference. Dr. Stephens thanked the Superintendent and Career Counselors for getting the TEDxConejo Conference into our community, and mentioned that some of the speakers were our own students.

ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

Personnel Services

A. Approval of Selected Portion of the 2010-2011 School Year Calendar

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the selected portion of the 2010-2011 school year calendar, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Public Hearing: Formal Receipt of the 2009-2010 Proposal for Reopener Collective Bargaining Negotiations Submitted by the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Chapter #620

President Phelps opened the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m. There were no speakers. Mrs. Phelps closed the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

C. Formal Receipt of the 2009-2010 Proposal for Reopener Collective Bargaining Negotiations Submitted by the California School Employees Association (CSEA)

Mrs. Buckles moved to formally receive CSEA's proposal, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Board Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coaches for the 2009-2010 School Year

Mr. Dunn moved to adopt the proposed Board Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coaches, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of Classified Employees Retirement Incentive Program

Dr. Connolly moved to approve the general terms of the classified retirement program, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

Business Services

F. District Budget Committee Initial Recommendations for 2010-2011 Budget

Dr. Baarstad presented a report from the recommendations of the District Budget Committee (this report may be found on the district's website at www.conejo.k12.ca.us). Mr. Mike Waters, Principal, Adult School, was invited by the Board to speak in regard to budget cuts in Adult Education programs and his proposal to restructure the program in order to reduce costs. He requested that cuts to the Adult School programs not exceed \$600,000 in order to sustain most of the programs, including the programs for senior adults and ESL. The Board discussed many alternatives to Adult School cuts. Mr. Dunn requested that there be no cuts in Phase I to the Adult School programs. Dr. Connolly stated her concern about the timing of the Phase II cuts causing problems for the Adult School to plan for the following school year; Mr. Waters stated that if he knew what the cuts were by May, the

Adult School would be able to prepare for the following year. Dr. Stephens commended Mr. Waters for his exemplary oversight of the Adult School programs.

There were 20 public speakers on the budget, including speakers for Adult Education programs, Instructional Media Technicians (IMTs), a representation of many classified positions, and one speaker who asked that the Budget Committee continue to be involved once money is restored. There was 1 Public Written Statement Form submitted regarding saving programs at the Adult School.

Dr. Connolly reopened Board discussion by stating that she would not reduce Adult Education beyond \$600,000. As money is restored by the state, she is concerned that if the district reduces programs too much, the state may not restore the program fully. Mrs. Buckles agreed with Dr. Connolly, and asked that the reserves not be touched. Mrs. Buckles asked that the IMT hours remain at 4 hours. Dr. Baarstad reminded the board that if any of the proposed cuts are saved this evening, a cut will have to come somewhere else or from reserves. Mr. Dunn asked that there be no cuts to the Adult School in Phase 1, and asked that the board consider transferring \$300,000 from reserves to cover Adult Education in Phase 1. Dr. Stephens asked if money taken out of reserves needed to be paid back within 3 years; Dr. Baarstad confirmed. Dr. Baarstad also asked for the Board to consider the work of the Budget Committee since August. The Committee felt that Adult Education should suffer cuts along with the rest of the district. The Budget Committee is also more concerned about cuts to the K-12 programs than the Adult Education programs. Mr. Contini mentioned that over the years, the State has not been kind to school districts that dip into their reserves. It is critical that the District position itself so that when restoration does come, we can restore programs instead of having to pay large amounts back into the reserves. Mr. Dunn continued to press for the Board to consider using \$300,000 from reserves, since they've never gone into reserves in the past. Dr. Connolly opened the discussion of IMTs at the schools, stating that she felt that parents value the library services as shown by various fund raisers. She asked for a compromise, restoring IMTs to 4.5, going half way with the Intermediate Clerk Typists (ICT). Dr. Baarstad stated that change would be cost neutral on the budget. Dr. Stephens asked for Mr. Iezza to respond to this suggestion, as the principals requested the original reconfiguration of maintaining the ICTs at 7 hours. Mr. Iezza stated that the compromise would be accepted by the principals. Dr. Baarstad stated that the Budget Committee, knowing that they are an advisory committee to the Board, would be concerned if there were major changes to their recommendations, and this compromise is not a major change.

Mrs. Buckles moved to accept Phase 1 budget cuts with the exception (School Sites – Phase 1) to reduce Instructional Media Techs from 5 to 4.5 hours and reduce Intermediate Clerk Typists from 8 to 6.5 hours, and send Phase II back to the Budget Committee to consider not reducing Adult Education below \$600,000 total, seconded by Dr. Connolly. (Dr. Connolly reminded Mr. Dunn that they are only voting on Phase 1 budget cuts and are asking that the Budget Committee reconsider not reducing Adult Education below \$600,000 total). Mr. Dunn asked for an amendment to transfer \$300,000 from the 3% reserve fund to Phase 1 and delete the \$300,000 cuts to Adult Education in Phase 1. Mrs. Buckles pointed out that not one member of the Budget Committee wanted to touch the reserves. There was no second for the amendment. The original motion carried 5-0.

G. Final Facilities Proposal for BRIDGES Charter School

Dr. Baarstad offered a report on staff recommendations regarding facilities for the BRIDGES Charter School for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Dunn asked Dr. Baarstad to explain the impact of disruption of having the Charter placed at the University Center versus Glenwood or Park Oaks. Dr. Baarstad explained why he would not recommend placement at Park Oaks Elementary. His opinion is that Glenwood Elementary would be the best place due to parking availability, the relocation of the main kitchen at Park Oaks, relocation of NFL which is under contract with the State at Park Oaks, and the general campus configuration. He asked the Board to consider if they believed that the potential benefits of the programs offered to the entire community at the University Center justify the disruption to the students, staff and programs at Glenwood Elementary School. If their decision is to co-locate at Glenwood, then the district staff feels strongly that transition support must be fully supported by staff and the Board for Glenwood. If the Board considers locating the Charter at University, we need to consider preservation of those programs at another site. Dr. Stephens asked if the University Center was ready for a Charter to move in immediately; Dr. Baarstad stated that moving the programs currently there and the Charter in would incur about \$100,000. Mr. Dunn asked Mrs. Cosaro how many students are currently being serviced at

University, she responded that currently there are 70 students, but several programs are being moved to the University Center next school year. Mr. Dunn stated that Glenwood Elementary currently has 340 students. If Bridges is located at Glenwood, there will be over 500 students at Glenwood next year; Mrs. Cosaro confirmed. Dr. Connolly asked how many students will be serviced at the University Center in the fall? Mrs. Cosaro responded 80-100 in various programs. Staff at the University Center are getting lots of requests for tours. Another area of interest to our community is the early intervention program housed at the University Center. She also stated that the district is mandated to have pre-school classes available for Special Education students in an inclusive program with similar students, and the University Center is expected to have an additional 5 classrooms for this program. Dr. Stephens mentioned that he went to Glenwood to visit with the Principal, Martha Tureen, who showed him the area on the campus where BRIDGES would fit well into classrooms that were all together, with a playground in that area. He stated that the configuration at Park Oaks would not be as desirable. Mr. Dunn discussed the cost of accommodating the Charter at Glenwood (approximately \$700,000 if the program grows to 300). Mr. Dunn asked at what enrollment number by the Charter would the staff recommend that Glenwood be closed to district students and operate only under the Charter. Dr. Baarstad said it would be very difficult to anticipate that, and that the same situation may occur at any other site.

There were 10 speakers regarding BRIDGES Charter facilities: 2 speakers asked that the school not be placed at Park Oaks, 3 asked that the school be placed at University, 2 asked that the school not be placed at Glenwood, 2 speakers expressed their concerns about the impact of the Charter school on the remaining 21,000 students in the district, and one speaker discussed her concern about the Horizon Hills campus needing updates and attention to better suit the needs of the classes and staff. 4 Public Written Statement forms were submitted asking that Bridges Charter be placed at the University Center.

Mr. Dunn reopened the discussion about the possibility of income from the University Center. He stated that income from child care has decreased over the past few years. He stated that he does not have a lot of confidence in the projections because of this. Mrs. Phelps commented that the \$625,000 mentioned is not income from the preschool but increased ADA from students who begin in the preschool program and remain in the district. Mrs. Buckles stated that when the Board and staff met with the Open Classroom Magnet last year, the Board agreed to almost everything they asked for. The group agreed that they wanted to keep the program small, about 175 students. Then, the Bridges Charter group broke away from the Open Classroom to open a Charter and asked for facilities for 180 students. Mrs. Buckles cited several references about the success and failure of Charter schools in terms of academic success and staying open. She also stated that for any school where the Charter may be placed, the Board will try very hard to make sure that the school remains open. Dr. Stephens made statements about the success of the District's two magnets: The Open Classroom Leadership Magnet and EARTHs. Mr. Dunn stated that he received around 342 pleas on the subject of where to put Bridges, and that 335 asked that Bridges be put on University. Dr. Connolly stated that she sees her role differently – that is, when elected the public expects the board to research difficult items, think hard about the options, and make decisions based upon the best for everyone. She stated that in a representative democracy, she would be letting the public down by responding to emails and letters to the editors as a substitute for good judgment. She addressed the Glenwood parents and said that she asked Dr. Baarstad for figures on expanding the campus to accommodate both schools. She is very committed to support a co-location in every way possible. She asked for Glenwood parents' trust that the Board and staff will do everything to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Dr. Connolly moved to locate the BRIDGES Charter School program at Glenwood Elementary School, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Mr. Contini stated that he understands that the parents involved with BRIDGES Charter want to do the best for their students, but wherever it goes, it will impact the District and the campus where it will be fiscally and facility-wise. In looking at the three facilities that are being considered, he stated that the University Center is a commitment that began more than a year ago. He stated that the Board and District also made a commitment at Horizon Hills to free up space, and that some of the programs are scheduled to move to the University Center. The coordination of services and expansion of programs will be for the community. The purpose was never to make money at the University Center, but the fact is that the programs at the site will bring in income expecting to reach \$1 million in six years, and over \$4 million in ten years. Considering all these issues, he does not see the University Center as the site for BRIDGES. At Park Oaks, there are too many issues

that would make this a very difficult decision. Glenwood seems to be the best decision overall. There is room for expansion, and parking and playground space is conducive to co-locating the Charter on that campus.

President Phelps asked for a vote on the motion: Motion carried 4-1, with Mr. Dunn voting no.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Mrs. Buckles moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Approval of Minutes (in Section B of the Agenda packet)
 1. Special Meeting of March 15, 2010
 2. Regular Meeting of March 16, 2010
- B. Personnel Assignment Orders:
 1. Certificated: #8507-8513
Teachers
 2. Classified: C-5005 to C-5028
Bilingual Cross-Cultural ELD Paraprofessional Facilitator/Spanish, Child Care Leader, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Early Care Teacher, Executive Director NfL, Instructional Media Technician, Maintenance Worker II, Paraprofessional/Bilingual-Spanish, Paraprofessional/Special Ed, Plant Supervisor
 3. Exempt: E-9394 to E-9453
Athletic Coach, Campus Supervisor, Proctor, Specialist
- C. Expulsions
Student has violated one or more section(s) of Education Code 48900
 1. Sequoia Middle School #39-09/10E
 2. Sequoia Middle School #40-09/10E
 3. Conejo Valley High School #41-09/10E
- D. Overnight/Boat/Airplane Field Trip Request: Newbury Park High School Culinary Arts Competition
- E. Purchase Order Report #765
- F. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment
- G. Notices Completion
 1. Los Cerritos Middle School – HVAC Furnace Replacement – Steve Spencer Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
 2. District Office – Child Care Center Electrical Revisions – Summit Electric

INFORMATION ITEMS

Instructional Services

- A. Approval of High School Pilot Intervention Program to Improve Student Literacy

REPORTS AND CONCERNS

- A. Reports from the Strategic Plan Committees: There were none.
- B. Reports from the Superintendent: There were none.

C. Reports from the Personnel Commission: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Phelps asked for a moment of silence for math educator, Jaime Escalanté, who died on this day.

President Phelps adjourned the Open Session at 9:45 p.m. The Board will reconvene on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. for Closed Session and 6:00 p.m. for Open Session-Regular Meeting at the CVUSD South Building Board Room, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

April 20, 2010

Date

Clerk

April 20, 2010

Date

Superintendent