

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

**April 1, 2014
MINUTES**

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:05 p.m. President Peggy Buckles announced that the Board would convene into Closed Session, and asked if there were any public speakers for the Closed Session agenda items; there were none. The Board convened into Closed Session at 5:07 p.m., where the following items were discussed.

- A. Public Employee Appointment-Employment (*Pursuant to Government Code §54957*)
 - 1. See Section IV. Action Items – Consent - Personnel/Assignment Orders
- B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (*Pursuant to Government Code §54957*)
 - 1. See Section IV. Action Items – Consent - Personnel/Assignment Orders
- C. Labor Negotiations, Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6
Agency Negotiator: Mark McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services
Employee Organizations:
 - Unified Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT)
 - California School Employees Association (CSEA)
 - Conejo Valley Pupil Personnel Association (CVPPA)
- D. Consideration of Student Discipline – Expulsion or Suspension, *Pursuant to Education Code §48900, et seq.*
- E. Consideration of Confidential Student Issues Other Than Expulsion and Suspension, *Pursuant to Education Code §35146*
- F. Pending Litigation, *Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1(a)(3)*
- G. Conference with Real Property Negotiators, *Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8*
Property negotiators for CVUSD are Dr. Joel Kirschenstein, Sage Institute, and Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Superintendent

The following properties will be discussed regarding price and terms of payment:

- 310 Kelley Road
- 2498 Conejo Center Drive

The Closed Session ended at 6:00 p.m. There were no announcements from Closed Session.

REGULAR SESSION

OPENING PROVISIONS

Call to Order and Roll Call: President Buckles called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., read the procedural announcements and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Present were Board members Peggy Buckles, Dr. Betsy Connolly, Mike Dunn, Pat Phelps and Dr. Timothy Stephens. Administration: Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Superintendent, Robert Iezza, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, Linda Bekeny, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, and Mark McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services. Dr. Jeff

Davis, Director, Secondary Education, Carol Boyan-Held, Director, Elementary Education, Dr. Jon Sand, Director, Curriculum & Assessment, were also present.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Recognitions: Athletic Champions

- Newbury Park High School: Emanuel Garay, CIF Winner and Most Inspirational Wrestler in California
- Newbury Park High School Girls Basketball, Marmonte League Champions
- Newbury Park High School Girls Soccer, Marmonte League Co-Champions
- Westlake High School Boys Basketball, Marmonte League Co-Champions
- Westlake High School Girls Soccer, Marmonte League Co-Champions

Reports from Student Representatives

Gabrielle Olivas, representing Thousand Oaks High School, Sierra Newell, Westlake High School, Jennifer Gould, Century Academy, and Sarah Jimenez, Newbury Park High School, discussed events on their campuses such as fund raisers for various charities, blood drives, senior activities, Dance and Cheer Championships, Sadie Hawkins events, Spirit Week, Throw Back Thursday, Senior Showcase, SBACC Testing, Prom, Powder Puff, Special Olympics, ASB events, WASC visits, athletic events, and other activities.

Reports from Community Support Organizations

Debbie Bulko, President, Conejo Council PTA, introduced Vaishali Bhargava and Lori Huemme from the Lang Ranch PTA, and Marshall Denninger from the Banyan Elementary School PTA, who reported about PTA events on their school campuses.

Rocky Capobianco, Chairperson, District Advisory Council (DAC), stated that the following reports were provided to the Council at the meeting of March 11: Mr. Capobianco explained the Role of DAC, Robert Iezza discussed Parent Procedures, Kari Taketa reported on EL Services, and Dr. Baarstad fielded a Bond Initiative Questions and Answer/Preliminary Feedback session. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8, at 9:00 a.m. For more information, please visit DAC's webpage at

<http://www.conejo.k12.ca.us/Parents/DistrictAdvisoryCouncilDAC.aspx>.

Sue Wells, representing the Conejo Schools Foundation, reported that the Foundation will be helping out during the City's Arbor Day Celebration, selling water bottles to raise funds to provide hydration stations at the schools. The All-District Music Festival will begin right after Spring Break. The schedule for the Music Festival may be found on the Foundation's website at www.conejoschools.org. The Summer School "Get Ahead" program registration begins on April 25, also on the website. The Foundation's "Cash for Conejo" program presented grants to 20 classroom teachers last month!

Comments from the Public

Eighteen cards were received. Five speakers, each having five others offer their time, stated their concerns about the suspension of Dominic Conti at Westlake High School and other issues such as sexual harassment of female students, Principal Ron Lipari and decisions by the Board. Five speakers, with three others offering their time, spoke to express their support of the Superintendent, Board members, administration at Westlake High School and the suspension of Dominic Conti.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Baarstad had no comments.

Comments from Individual Board Members**Regarding the Conti Issue**

Mrs. Phelps stated that she read the entire 170 pages of testimony, letters, emails and everything else in the packet that was put together for the Board members to review days before the Board meeting of February 4.

Dr. Stephens stated that after reviewing all the information regarding the Conti matter, if the sexual harassment incident had been reported directly to Westlake High School administration from the beginning, the issue would not have come before the Board. Also, if the Mr. Conti and Dominic had gone to administration the night of the football game and reported that the 14 year old boy was present at the game, the issue would not have come before the Board.

Dr. Connolly thanked Mrs. Phelps for clarifying that the contents of the packet the Board received to make a determination about the Conti issue was over 170 pages, and that she also read and reviewed every page. She also stated that the Board members heard testimony from each of the Conti's representatives before going into Closed Session on February 4. The Board, in closed session, considered the information they were given ahead of time and the Conti's testimonies in order to come to their conclusion. Dr. Connolly stated that the Conti's reported the sexual harassment of their daughter with a Westlake High School teacher the day before the incident, the only time the harassment was reported. Finally, Dr. Connolly stated that when Dominic became president of the senior class, he signed a document which is based on the by-laws of the organization that states if an officer is suspended, they have to step down from office. The student government has its own government and by-laws separate from those of the district.

Mr. Dunn compared the discipline of the 14 year old that sexually harassed the Conti's daughter to what would have happened if a firefighter harassed a female in the fire department (Mr. Dunn is a retired fireman). He stated that he is convinced that the community wants to put this behind us. Mr. Dunn stated he believes if the Board had considered the appeal and would have considered public comments, this would all be behind us.

Mrs. Buckles also read all 170 pages of the document provided to the Board. However, there were five pages that were very difficult to read. She asked administration for a more legible copy of the five pages, and all Board members were provided with them. These are the five pages that Mr. Dunn has stated were provided to the Board at the last minute, and therefore, not part of due process. They were actually just better copies of pages already provided in the original document.

Other District Issues

Mrs. Phelps commented that she felt that the last DAC meeting was one of the best she ever attended. She felt that the dialog was open and comfortable and felt very proud of everyone there.

ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL**Personnel Services****A. Approval of Salary Range Placement for a New Classification in Classified Service**

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the salary placement for the new job class, Library Technician, to be on salary range 50 (\$2,766-\$3,383), on the CSEA Salary Schedule, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Mrs. Phelps moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Motion carried 5-0.

A. Approval of Minutes (in Section B of the full Agenda)

1. Regular Meeting of March 18, 2014

B. Personnel Assignment Orders:

~~1.~~ Certificated Employees: #9552-9561*Administrator, Counselor, Teachers*2. Classified Employees: C-8283 to C-8312*Child Care Assistant, Child Care Leader, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Clerk, Custodial Services Supervisor, Custodian, Early Care Assistant Teacher, Early Care Teacher, Health Clerk, Intermediate Clerk Typist, Language Assessment and Facilitator-Spanish, Lead Groundskeeper, Paraprofessional / Bilingual – Spanish, Paraprofessional/Special Ed, Telephone Operator/Receptionist, Translator/Interpreter, Web Content Specialist*3. Exempt Employees: E-13450 to E-13486*Campus Supervisor, Coaches, Proctor, Specialist, Student Helper*

C. Preauthorization of Overnight Trip Requests

D. Overnight Trip Request: Banyan, EARTHs, Ladera, Lang Ranch Elementary Schools, Redwood and Sequoia Middle Schools, Newbury Park High School

E. Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorizations

1. Sequoia Middle School Band
2. Westlake High School Baseball
3. Westlake High School Boys Basketball
4. Westlake High School Girls Basketball
5. Westlake High School Spirit Cheer
6. Westlake High School Choral
7. Westlake High School Dance Team
8. Westlake High School Football
9. Westlake High School Softball

F. Purchase Order Report #853

G. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment

H. Addendum #4 to the 2013-2014 Annual Signature Authorization

INFORMATION ITEMS**Superintendent**

- A. Budget Committee Recommendation for 2014-2015. Dr. Baarstad presented a report to the Board. At the end of his presentation, he explained that with the new budget guidelines from the State, the District no longer has 40 categorical budgets to work within, but instead a few block grants. The flexibility is greater but the decisions are more difficult. He also pointed out that next year for the first time, we will not be working in a deficit situation with the budget. Mrs. Phelps asked if the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) will create another budget committee. Dr. Baarstad stated no, that the LCAP will be widely shared with many constituent groups for feedback and input, but will not require a new committee. In addition, the District is required to publish it on our website and hold a Public Hearing. The LCAP and final proposed budget will be presented for approval at the final meeting of the school year, June 24. Dr. Stephens

commended the Committee for proposing more discretionary funds for elementary and middle schools, and hopes the trend continues. Mr. Dunn asked if there would be any additional transferring of Adult Education funds. Dr. Baarstad replied no, and that Mr. Waters has done an exceptional job of maintaining an excellent program at the Adult Education School. Mrs. Buckles asked if parents and staff will have more input on decisions about the funds allocated to the schools. Dr. Baarstad stated that the State has not given districts direction on this yet. Mr. Dunn asked if this money could be used for cost-of-living increase for employees.

Personnel Services

- B. Establishment of Certificated Administrative Position – Director, Student Support Services. Mr. Dunn inquired about the fiscal impact of this position. Dr. Baarstad stated \$148,000. Dr. Stephens asked if the position will require support staff (secretary). Mr. Iezza stated that there has been a secretarial position in the department that will be allocated to the new director.

Instructional Services

- C. Approval of New High School Pilot Course: Chinese IB Mandarin ab initio. Dr. Jon Sand, Director, Curriculum and Assessment, stated that this is an International Baccalaureate program and that is why it is only at Newbury Park High School. Dr. Connolly commended teachers and staff for the pilot courses for more choices for students.
- D. Approval of New High School Pilot Course: Community Service/Volunteerism.
- E. Approval of Amendments to Board Policy/Administrative Regulations 6144 – Controversial Issues. Mr. Iezza asked the Board to consider options before approving this amendment. Proposal 1 is from CSBA, Proposal 2 is the same with the addition of a form and approval for outside speakers. He stated that he would go with the choice of the Board. Dr. Connolly stated that she liked the idea of teachers consulting with the principal in regard to outside speakers, some which may be controversial. She felt that using the form documented that conversation had taken place between the teacher and principal. Other Board members expressed support for keeping the form in the policy.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Buckles adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m. The Board will reconvene on **Tuesday, April 22, 2014, Closed Session at 5:00 p.m., Open Session at 6:00 p.m.** at the CVUSD South Building Board Room, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

April 22, 2014

Date

Clerk

April 22, 2014

Date

Superintendent