

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

**MAY 3, 2016
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION

At 5:05 p.m. President Phelps 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, Discipline/Dismissal/Release, *Pursuant to Government Code §54957*
See Section IV. Action Items-Consent Personnel Assignment Orders
- B. Pending Litigation, *Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(b)*

The Closed Session ended at 5:35 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

OPENING PROVISIONS

Call to Order and Roll Call: President Phelps called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Present were Board members John Andersen, Dr. Betsy Connolly, Mike Dunn, and Pat Phelps. Peggy Buckles was not present. Administration: Dr. Ann Bonitatibus, Superintendent; Robert Iezza, Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Services; Dr. Jon Sand, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services; Mark McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Jeanne Valentine, Director, Elementary Education; James Garza, Director, Secondary Education; Dr. Jennifer Boone, Director, Curriculum & Assessment; David Fateh, Director, Planning & Construction; Dr. Michelle Morse, Director, Special Education; Marina Mihalevsky, Director, Classified Personnel.

Mrs. Phelps welcomed attendees to the meeting and read the procedural announcements.

Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Connolly moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Motion carried 4-0.

Presentation: Conejo Valley Learning Center Update, David Fateh, Director, Planning & Construction

Mr. Fateh presented history and a status update on the proposed Conejo Valley Learning Center (CVLC). In his report, Mr. Fateh presented the top three of eight options that were considered:

- Option 3: Continue to construct on original Janss Road site and scale back scope
- Option 2: Use an underutilized elementary site and co-locate programs
- Option 1: Use Triunfo and Horizon Hills sites and relocate programs

Mr. Fateh concluded by stating that recommendations will be brought forward to the Board for Information at the May 17 meeting, and for Action on June 7.

Dr. Connolly thanked Mr. Fateh and every staff member who has worked on this, stating how much the Board has learned through programs such as Century Academy and Breakthrough about ways to address alternative needs for

high school students, realizing that the large comprehensive high school is not the best for everyone. The CVLC was a concept offering many programs for many students. If we cannot offer that, then Options #1 and #2 would be her choice that would still offer alternatives to students. Mr. Andersen also thanked the staff, and mentioned how much time staff has spent to find solutions for this issue. Mr. Dunn had questions, which Mr. Fateh answered.

Reports from Student Reporters

Brooke Katz, representing Westlake High School; Lauren Sutter, Century Academy; Priscilla Villa, Conejo Valley High School; Brooke Barker, Thousand Oaks High School; and Sam Klein, Newbury Park High School, reported on activities on their campuses such as AP exams and SBAC testing, elections for ASB/G, fund raisers, theater, blood drives, senior activities, field trips, Teacher Appreciation Week, art shows, band, choir and orchestra concerts, athletics and many other activities.

Reports from Parent Support Organizations

Mike Soules, President, Conejo Schools Foundation, reported on the All District Music Festival, with the strings and choral evenings completed. During those evenings, guest mimes comingled with the audience to collect over \$6,700 generous donations, which will be placed back into the Foundation and earmarked for the All-District Music Festival next year. The cost for the All-District Music Festival exceeds \$100,000 each year. Band Festival evenings will be May 23, 24, and 25. Mr. Soules announced that the “Get Ahead” summer school program has exceeded 750 enrollments. He also announced that on October 6, 2016, the Conejo Schools Foundation in collaboration with CVUSD will present a “State of the Schools” event at the California Lutheran University Lundring Center. Many community partners will be involved such as the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, Corwin Press, CLU, and others. Please see the Foundation’s website www.conejoschools.org for more information.

Irene Pugh, Chair, Conejo Council PTA, introduced Eddie Hu and Noah Sylvester, officers with the Westlake High School PTSA. Students presented a report about the effects of sleep deprivation during teen years, and encouraged the Board and staff to consider a later starting time for high school students. Board members asked questions, which the students answered.

Susan Hanscom, Chairperson, District Advisory Council (DAC), commended Eddie and Noah for their report, which they also brought to DAC’s April meeting. Ms. Hanscom reported from the meeting of April 12, 2016, where the council heard reports from the Banyan Club 8 by Principal, Laurie Davis; Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS); members of the Science Articulation Committee, and LCAP Survey Results/Summary by Dr. Jennifer Boone, Director, Curriculum & Assessment. The next DAC meeting will be May 10, 9:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Please see DAC’s webpage on the Parents tab of the District’s website: www.conejousd.org

Comments from the Public

The first speaker informed the board and public about the Public Works Forestry Master Plan, and the survey available for public input at www.to.org/forestry_master_plan.

Speakers two – five provided information about their experiences with Carden School and appealed to the Board to not close their school.

The sixth speaker represented the Shakespeare program for elementary teachers and students throughout the District. She offered a “basket of thanks” to the board for their support of the program.

The seventh speaker asked that the Board consider including Wellness in the District’s LCAP.

The eighth speaker discussed her opposition to building a new continuation school and displacing Carden School. She also stated that the District is not required to provide a continuation school program.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Bonitatibus stated that during National Teacher Appreciation Week, everyone reflect on the positive influence our teachers have on students' lives. Dr. Bonitatibus mentioned that May 11 will be National School Nurse Day and thanked our nurses and health technicians who give invaluable medical care to students. Dr. Bonitatibus praised Suzie Painter, a crossing guard at Wildwood Elementary School, who recently prevented a serious tragedy when she pushed a parent and child out of harm's way of a careening car whose driver was suffering with a medical emergency. Dr. Bonitatibus congratulated Joyce Wheatley, Acacia Elementary School, who was recognized as Teacher of the Month for May. She also congratulated Halie Chambers, Principal, Madroña Elementary, who was recognized at the 40 Under 40 Chamber of Commerce event last week celebrating outstanding professionals. Dr. Bonitatibus acknowledged and thanked the Conejo Council PTA for inviting her to attend the end-of-year dinner where several individuals received Honorary Service Awards. Her favorite Learner Moment was while attending the Westlake High School PTSA student leaders' meeting. Students asked great questions about scheduling logistics, safety, and differences between school on the east and west coasts. She mentioned that this is her one-year anniversary as it was the first board meeting in May 2015 when the board announced that they had selected her as the Superintendent, beginning July 1, 2015. She thanked the Board for the privilege to serve this outstanding school district.

Comments from the Board of Education

Mr. Andersen congratulated Joyce Wheatley at Acacia Elementary School for her selection as Teacher of the Month of April. Mr. Andersen also discussed his upcoming trip to Sacramento to attend the Delegate Assembly meeting with California School Boards Association (CSBA). He asked Board members to consider if they would like to suggest changes to LCAP that he would bring forward at the meeting.

Mr. Dunn offered his email address to members of the audience representing Carden School.

Dr. Connolly thanked the Conejo Council PTA for their end-of-year dinner and service awards honors. She thanked PTA for all their work on the school campuses for the students and staff. She also thanked the Conejo Schools Foundation for all their accomplishments that also benefit our schools.

Mrs. Phelps congratulated Joyce Wheatley at Acacia Elementary School as the Teacher of the Month, and stated that Ms. Wheatley taught her children at Acacia. She also congratulated Karen Isé, Executive Administrative Assistant, for her Honorary Service Award presented at the Conejo Council PTA dinner.

ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

Board of Education

A. Approval of Resolution #15/16-23: Ordering a Governing Board Member Election

Mr. Andersen moved to adopt Resolution #15/16-23: Ordering a Governing Board Member Election, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 4-0.

Personnel Services

B. Approval of Resolution #15/16-19: Classified School Employee Week (May 15-21, 2016)

Mr. Dunn moved to adopt the resolution declaring May 15-21, 2016, as "Classified School Employee Week," seconded by Mr. Andersen. Mr. Andersen asked if the District had recognitions for Classified Employees. Mrs. Phelps mentioned the Outstanding Employee recognitions and Dr. Connolly mentioned the longevity and retirement ceremonies – both events in May. Motion carried 4-0.

C. Approval of Resolution #15/16-20: Layoff/Reduction of Classified Positions

Dr. Connolly moved to approve Resolution #15/16-20 – Layoff/Reduction of Classified Positions as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Three public speakers spoke against eliminating the Supervisor, Special Education

Paraprofessionals' position; three public speakers spoke against reducing hours of employees in the Neighborhood for Learning (NfL) program. Board members asked questions of staff regarding the reductions. Dr. Connolly stated her confidence in staff's attempt to minimize the reductions while they must consider encroachment on the General Fund. Mr. Andersen stated that he understands both sides of the situation with the Supervisor, Special Education Paraprofessionals' position, but will be voting no. Mr. Dunn made several statements about the Supervisor's position, and stated that he too will vote no. He questioned the amount of money that is spent in the district on travel and conferences. Both Mr. Andersen and Mr. Dunn requested that future staff reductions be handled with individual reports instead of grouping them together (as this one was). The vote was lost on a tie vote (Yes-Connolly, Phelps; No-Andersen, Dunn).

D. Establishment of Classified Positions: Neighborhood for Learning

Mr. Andersen moved to approve the establishment of position(s) as submitted, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Mr. McLaughlin stated that these positions were based upon the passing of the previous action, and therefore, the item should be tabled. Mr. Dunn asked for clarity as to why there is a request for reduction in NfL, yet positions are being created. Mr. McLaughlin explained that due to flat funding, reorganization is necessary. Motion failed 1-3 (Yes-Dunn; No-Andersen, Connolly, Phelps).

E. Establishment of Positions in Instructional Services

Dr. Connolly moved to approve the establishment of position(s) as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Staff stated that these positions were dependent upon the previous action, and therefore, the item should be tabled. Mr. Dunn questioned funding sources of some of the positions; Mr. Iezza explained the funding sources. Dr. Michelle Morse also provided insight into the reorganization plan within the Special Education program. Mr. Dunn suggested compromises to the plan in order to save the Supervisor's position. Mrs. Phelps explained that the organizational plan was not just for financial purposes, but also for structure, and therefore, all the positions must be considered for the plan to work. Motion failed 0-4.

F. Approval of an Agreement with University of Phoenix for a Student Teaching Program

Mr. Andersen moved to approve the agreement for the University of Phoenix Memorandum of Understanding for educational field experience, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Motion carried 4-0.

Instructional Services

G. Approval of CVUSD Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Plan

Dr. Connolly moved to approve the CVUSD Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Plan, as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Motion carried 4-0.

H. Approval of Amendments to Administrative Regulation 5121: Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

Mr. Dunn moved to approve amendments to Administrative Regulation 5121: Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement, as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Dr. Connolly discussed her concerns with students who do not take Honors and AP classes yet earn a 4.0 GPA. She questioned the tradition in the District about the gate-keeping process when placing students, and why students that achieve the highest level in their pathway, such as CP classes, should not also be recognized. Dr. Bonitatibus stated that she would welcome an ad hoc committee to discuss this topic. Mrs. Phelps provided some history for the current process, and stated it was a subject of great discussion and thought years ago. Mr. Iezza explained that the amendments submitted are in regard to new legislation for the Cal Grant. Motion carried 4-0.

I. Approval of Amendments to Administrative Regulation 5145.2: Freedom of Speech/Expression

Mr. Dunn moved to approve amended Administrative Regulation 5145.2: Freedom of Speech/Expression, as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Mr. Andersen thanked the committee for their work. Motion carried 4-0.

J. Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 5146: Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students

Mr. Andersen moved to approve amendments to Board Policy 5146: Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students, as submitted, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 4-0.

K. Approval of Replacement for Administrative Regulation 6162.51: State Academic Achievement Tests

Dr. Connolly moved to approve replacement for Administrative Regulation 6162.51: State Academic Achievement Tests, as submitted, seconded by Mr. Andersen. Motion carried 4-0.

L. Approval of Amendments to Administrative Regulation 6173.1: Education for Foster Youth

Mr. Andersen moved to approve amendments to Administrative Regulation 6173.1: Education for Foster Youth, as submitted, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Motion carried 4-0.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Dr. Connolly moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Motion carried 4-0.

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

1. Regular Meeting of April 19, 2016

B. Personnel Assignment Orders:

1. Certificated Employees: #0125 to #0130
Administrators, Counselors, Psychologists, Teachers
2. Classified Employees: C-9751 to C-9777
Behavior Intervention Specialist, Child Care Leader, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Child Nutrition Assistant – Satellite, Custodian, Early Care Assistant Teacher, Early Care Teacher, Human Resources Technician, Intermediate Clerk Typist, Library Technician, Paraprofessional/Special Ed, School Office Manager I, Secretary, Telephone Operator/Receptionist
3. Exempt Employees: E-15514 to E-15521
Campus Supervisors, Coach, Specialist

C. Overnight Trip Request: Thousand Oaks High School Cross Country

D. Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Westlake High School Wrestling

E. Purchase Order Report #900

F. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment

INFORMATION ITEMS

Personnel Services

A. Establishment of Position: Business Services Department

Due to other proposed structure changes that were not approved, this item is no longer going forward for approval at this time. There was much discussion. Mrs. Phelps asked if there is another plan for the restructuring of department personnel. Dr. Bonitatibus stated that staff will discuss next steps and options.

Instructional Services

B. Career-Applied Technology Education Grant Application. There were no comments.

- C. Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 6152: Class Assignment.
- D. Approval of New Board Policy and Exhibit 6152.1: Placement in Mathematics Courses. One public speaker announced that she represented several secondary mathematics teachers in the District, and stated there is concern that the policy does not properly reflect the requirements of the new law SB359. She suggested a sub-committee be formed to review both. Robert Iezza stated that the policy language is driven by law, and that part cannot be changed due to the fact it is the law. Mr. Dunn asked if the policy was passed through the Math Articulation Committee; Mr. Iezza stated that elements of the policy were discussed with the Articulation Committee, and for the past couple of years, the math pathways have been discussed. Dr. Jennifer Boone, Director, Curriculum & Assessment, agreed that elements of the policy have been discussed with the Committee, and that meeting of the committee would have to be reconvened to discuss their new concerns. Mr. Andersen stated that from the emails received by board members, it seems that there is a group of teachers who feel they have not been included in the communication. Dr. Connolly stated that some policies that come to the board for approval are put in the hands of staff to update and sometimes board members are not experienced with those issues. But when a policy comes forward that connects with the expertise of staff, it would be appreciated if they were included in making decisions to change the policy. Many of the messages she received from math teachers about this issue indicated that they were not aware of the board policy process. Dr. Bonitatibus stated that there are different structures in different districts as to how policy and regulation changes are made. Dr. Connolly confirmed that she would like a communication structure that expresses the concerns of the individuals who implement policy.
- E. Approval of Replacement for Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6174: Education for English Language Learners. There were no comments.

Business Services

- F. Ventura County Office of Education Williams Activity Report for 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2015-2016. There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Phelps adjourned the Open Session at 9:39 p.m. **The next regularly-scheduled Board meeting will be Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 4:30 p.m. Closed Session, 5:30 p.m. Open Session** at the CVUSD South Building Board Room, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

May 17, 2016

Date

Clerk

May 17, 2016

Date

Superintendent