

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

**May 6, 2008
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION

The Board meeting of May 6, 2008, was called to order by President Dorothy Beaubien at 4:50 p.m. Mrs. Beaubien asked if there were any public speakers for the Closed Session agenda items; there were none. The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 4:52 p.m., where the following items were discussed:

- A. Public Employee Appointment-Employment-Evaluation-Leaves of Absence-Retirement-Discipline-Dismissal
Pursuant to Government Code §54957
- B. Consideration of Student Discipline
Pursuant to Education Code §48918
- C. Pending Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1(a)
- D. Labor Negotiations
Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6
- E. Real Estate Negotiations: Kelley Road Site
Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8
Dr. Joel Kirchenstein, Sage Industries, Negotiator

The Closed Session ended at 5:52 p.m. There were no announcements from Closed Session.

CALL TO ORDER – OPEN SESSION

OPENING PROVISIONS

President Beaubien called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and read the procedural announcements for the meeting.

Present were Board members Dorothy Beaubien, Dolores Didio, Mike Dunn, Pat Phelps, and Dr. Timothy Stephens. Administration: Mario V. Contini, Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Deputy Superintendent, Jo-Ann Yoos, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services, and Janet Cosaro, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services. Max Beaman, Director, Secondary Education, Bob Iezza, Director, Elementary Education, and Carol Boyan, Director, Curriculum, were also present.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda with the following changes: Pull item II.E. Reports: Magnet Schools Presentation, Consent Agenda H. 3 Change Order - Sycamore Canyon School – Gym & Locker room – GRD Construction, and I. 2 Notice of Completion – Sycamore Canyon School – Gym & Locker Room GRD Construction; seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

Recognitions

▪ **National Merit Finalists**

The Board recognized the National Merit Finalists from the high schools:

Newbury Park High School: Michael Alland, Heather DeCamp, Kevin LaRosa, Lingmiao Wang

Thousand Oaks High School: Kathryn Baumgarten, Stephanie Marie Bonds, Young Bin Kim, Annelise Yoo Mah, Brian Moon, Karly Noblitt, Abigail Sassoon, Kenneth Wang

Westlake High School: Michael Chen, Dominic Insogna, Benjamine Liu, Kathleen Lo, Victoria Lou, Andrew Maleki, Linda Peng, David Richardson, Philip Shao, Aislinn Smalling, Danni Xie

- Redwood Middle School 7th Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl State Champions
- Sycamore Canyon 7th Grade Edison Challenge Team 2008 Champions (Environmental Project: The Danger of Throwing Away (Instead of Recycling) Old Batteries)

Reports from Student Board Members

Cody Gregoriadis, Conejo Valley/Century High School representative, sat with the Board. Cody, along with Katie Murphy, Newbury Park High School, Marina Piper, Thousand Oaks High School, and Aaron Alpert, Westlake High School, reported on events at their schools such as graduation events, athletics, choral, band and theater performances, rallies, assemblies, field trips, fund raisers, and other departmental and club activities.

Comments from Support Groups

Aleta Smith, President, Conejo Council PTA, reported on events from the state convention and from the rally in front of Senator McClintock's office to oppose the governor's budget cuts. Two more rallies are planned, one in front of the Governor's office in Los Angeles. The message at the rallies is to deny the proposed cuts to the education budget in California, and to make major changes to the system of funding education in California.

Sue Wells, Chair, District Advisory Council (DAC), reported from the April meeting where Janet Cosaro provided an update on energy drinks and the wellness policy, Glenwood Elementary shared their mileage club program, the Thousand Oaks (West) Cluster shared the Single School Plan, and Dr. Baarstad distributed budget development and reduction drafts. On April 22, a special Budget DAC meeting was held where Dr. Baarstad informed the group that the District will proceed with the closure of Meadows and University elementary schools in the fall 2009 unless enrollment projections improve or income is increased. Dr. Baarstad also distributed proposed budget cuts for 2008-2009. The next DAC meeting will be May 13.

Comments from the Superintendent

Mr. Contini: 1) has been planning with staff and the Board to convert to a paperless agenda. We are now offering the entire agenda on our (new) website in a .pdf format. Each board member will, in time, be using a laptop at the dais, and the money saved from the printing and distribution costs will pay for those laptops within the first year. The savings will be sustained and ongoing. 2) continues to meet with staff, City and CRPD to work out ideas that would benefit the community, i.e., cost savings/revenue generation. For the school district, our major issues are getting through the budget crisis, trying to keep from closing schools, addressing our technology needs, and continuing our facility improvement program. The City and CRPD are also expecting to face budget stress soon and have a number of projects that are important to the community that need financial support. All three entities face the need to look at cost cutting measures. We have agreed to identify cost saving strategies we can work on together and to review their feasibility with appropriate staff and share what we find with the Boards and Council. We discussed working together on other projects for the greater benefit of the community as well, such as the Discovery Center. The City is exploring the cost/service ratio related to the County Fire service to improve the efficient and equitable collection and spending of tax dollars spent on fire service in our community. This could have a positive impact on fire service near schools and help the City continue its support for the schools. Finally, the City has donated a City of Thousand Oaks flag to the District and is looking into providing flags to schools which we hope to fly along with the National and State flags so that students can see images of all levels of government that make up our democracy.

Comments from the Public

22 speakers discussed their concerns about the proposed budget cuts, especially in regard to employees losing their jobs or their hours are being reduced, 1 speaker spoke about an out-of-district permit request that had not been responded to, 1 speaker compared the board meetings to the Gong show, 1 speaker asked for parent

workshops for EveryDay Math, 1 speaker spoke against school closure, and 3 speakers thanked the Board and District for their support (athletics).

Comments from Individual Board Members

Mrs. Phelps commended the work and production of the "State of the District" video program, which can be seen on Channel 20. She stated that the program offers a great deal of important information about the district. She also thanked and applauded the student productions that are part of the video.

ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL

Board of Education and Superintendent's Office

A. Resolution #07/08-24: Ordering a Governing Board Member Election

Mr. Dunn moved to adopt the resolution Ordering a Governing Board Member Election, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Adjust Board Meeting Calendar for Summer Break 2008

Mrs. Phelps moved to adjust the Board meeting schedule for the 2008 Summer Break, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Approval of the CSBA 6142 Board Policies and Administrative Regulation (First Reading)

Dr. Stephens moved to adopt the CSBA 6142 policies and administrative regulations regarding complaint procedures, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval of the CSBA 6143 Board Policies and Administrative Regulations (First Reading)

Mrs. Phelps moved to adopt the CSBA 6143 policies and administrative regulations regarding courses of study, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of the CSBA 6164.2 Board Policies and Administrative Regulations (First Reading)

Mrs. Didio moved to adopt the CSBA 6164.2 policies and administrative regulations regarding Guidance/Counseling services, seconded by Mr. Dunn. Motion carried 5-0.

Personnel Services

F. Resolution #07/08-21: Day of the Teacher (May 14, 2008)

Mr. Dunn moved to adopt a resolution proclaiming May 14, 2008, as the Day of the Teacher, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Resolution #07/08-22: Classified School Employee Week (May 19-23, 2008)

Mrs. Didio moved to adopt the resolution declaring Classified School Employee Week, May 19-23, 2008, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

Instructional Services

H. Approval of School Choice Capacity Limits for Elementary Schools 2008-2009

Dr. Stephens moved to adopt the 2008-2009 School Choice Capacity Limits for Elementary Schools, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0.

I. Approval of Grades 6-12 Math Textbook and Materials Adoption

Mrs. Phelps moved to adopt and purchase the textbooks and ancillary materials listed for grades 6-12, and obsolete listed textbooks, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the consent agenda as amended during the approval of the Agenda, seconded by Dr. Stephens. One public speaker spoke to his disappointment about the minutes and would like extra copies of the minutes available to the public. Motion carried 5-0.

- A. Approval of minutes:
 - 1. Regular Meeting of April 15, 2008
- B. Personnel Assignment Orders:
 - 1. Certificated: #8061 through #8072
Teacher, Certificated Management
 - 2. Classified: C-4159 to C-4179
Child Care Assistant, Child Care Leader, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Intermediate Clerk Typist, Paraprofessional, Paraprofessional/Special Education, Preschool Assistant Teacher, Preschool Teacher, School Office Manager, Senior Account Typist, Site Computer Technician
 - Exempt: E-7932 to E-7968
Campus Supervisor, Proctor, Specialist, Student Helper
- C. Expulsions
 - 1. Conejo Valley High School #40-07/08E
 - 2. Colina Middle School #41-07/08E
 - 3. Conejo Valley High School #42-07/08E
 - 4. Conejo Valley High School #43-07/08E
 - 5. Colina Middle School #44-07/08E
 - 6. Westlake High School #45-07/08E
 - 7. Conejo Valley High School #46-07/08E
- D. Overnight Trip Request: Sycamore Canyon 7th Grade Edison Challenge Winners
- E. Purchase Order Report #723
- F. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment
- G. Award of Contracts
 - 1. Los Cerritos Middle School – Phase 1 Modernization – Elevator Modernization
 - 2. Various School Sites – Roofing Repair/Replacement
 - 3. Various School Sites – Flooring and Indefinite Quantity Flooring
- H. Change Orders
 - 1. #1 – Thousand Oaks High School – Lab Improvements – SBS Corporation, Inc.
 - 2. #3 – Wildwood Elementary School – Phase 1 Modernization – SBS Corporation, Inc.
 - 3. ~~#5 – Sycamore Canyon School – Gym & Locker Room – GRD Construction~~ *Pulled*
- I. Notices of Completion
 - 1. Colina Middle School – 2-Story Modular Classroom Addition – Meadows Construction
 - 2. ~~Sycamore Canyon School – Gym & Locker Room – GRD Construction~~ *Pulled*
 - 3. Wildwood Elementary – Phase 1 Modernization – SBS Corporation, Inc.
 - 4. Various Sites – Indefinite Quantity Electrical – Reyes & Sons Electric, Inc.
 - 5. Indefinite Quantity Concrete/Masonry – Mendez Concrete

INFORMATION ITEMS**Board of Education and Superintendent's Office**

- A. Board Policy Update Process (Series 0000, 1000, 2000, 9000) Mr. Contini and the Board worked through several of the policy updates. With the Board recommendations, the policies will come forward on May 20, 2008, for action/approval.
- B. ~~Governance and Funding Committee 3 Preliminary Draft End of Year Report~~ *Tabled*

C. ~~Board Priorities and the District's Strategic Plan~~ *Tabled*

Instructional Services

- D. PUBLIC HEARING: Approval of 2008-2012 Ventura County Plan for Career and Technical Education Course Sequencing (Report by Max Beaman) Mrs. Beaubien and Mrs. Didio expressed their pleasure about the plan.
- E. Approval of the CSBA 6178 Board Policies and Administrative Regulations – No comments
- F. University Elementary School Student Displacement Due to School Closure – Mrs. Phelps asked if University would be attending 2 or 3 schools. Dr. Baarstad responded 2, Weathersfield and Wildwood Elementary Schools.

Business Services

- G. CEQA Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Conejo Valley Community Learning Center (CLC) – Conejo Valley High School Project – No comments
- H. 2008-2009 Budget Reductions (Report by Dr. Baarstad)
Dr. Baarstad presented primary and secondary budget cuts. *(These reports may be obtained on the district's (new) web site home page, under Announcements.)* Dr. Baarstad's proposal cuts 6% at the district level, 4% for District support services, and 2% at the school sites. Unfortunately, there is no time for a large committee with representatives from all areas of the district. As Dr. Baarstad read down the list, Board members asked questions. Mr. Dunn asked about the travel and conference budget of \$687,000, and asked about the Board and Superintendent's travel and conference budget. Dr. Baarstad responded the Board and superintendent's travel and conference budget is around \$30,000, which is being cut substantially. The \$687,000 represents everything department and school's total travel and conference budget. Mr. Dunn asked about the possibility of solar energy out of construction funds to save money. Dr. Baarstad stated that there are some pilots programs around, but not a lot of information yet. Construction people wonder about the durability and replacement versus savings. In 10-15 years we will have more information about the solar cells. Ms. Phelps asked about the position of Assistant Director, Personnel. Dr. Baarstad explained that position supports both the certificated and classified areas. Ms. Didio stated that she did not think it would be wise to cut the Associate Director of Pupil Services. This position handles many services, including SARB, GATE, writing grants. These jobs may be lost if they were spread out to other administrators. Dr. Baarstad stated that people will come forward if the district only makes cuts in clerical, custodial and other classified positions. We need to include administrative positions, too. However, he will take the direction of the board. Ms. Cosaro stated that the district highly values the job of the Associate Director, however, those jobs could be distributed to other District Office directors in Instruction. SARB, GATE, and other programs will be protected. Ms. Phelps asked if we could save the elementary counselors rather than portion out small grants from the savings of the energy plan. Dr. Baarstad stated that we need to establish priorities. Ms. Beaubien asked if the Energy Director is needed full time. Dr. Baarstad stated yes, that is part of the agreement in the program and the savings pays for his position. Dr. Stephens asked if we could offer the schools the ability to state which services they wanted. Dr. Baarstad stated it would be difficult to implement this and it would create an unstable environment. Staffing formulas need to be in place across the district. Mrs. Phelps named several specialists positions that are different at each school. Dr. Baarstad pointed out that these people are funding from sources other than the general fund, and are not represented by any bargaining group. They do not have contracts supported by the District. Dr. Baarstad stated that staff will take direction from the Board in regard to final cuts. Mrs. Beaubien asked if Century High School could incorporate into Conejo Valley High School in order to save money. Dr. Baarstad stated that he would look into this, however, he stated that these children will probably not be served as well. Ms. Beaubien stated that she felt they would be, and asked Dr. Baarstad to look into this. Dr. Stephens asked about reducing some Classified jobs to 4 days instead of cutting positions. Dr. Baarstad stated cutting 1% across the board as employees – all bargaining units – would save \$1 million. Ms. Didio asked about teachers teaching 6 periods at the high schools due to the class size reduction program in Math and English. Dr. Baarstad said yes, but it is much less expensive than bringing in a part time teacher. Dr. Stephens asked if raising class size by one student would be

feasible? Dr. Baarstad stated that this was discussed but it was decided to protect the program. Dr. Stephens stated that the Board has discussed this and felt that one student would still provide everything that the students now experience. Mrs. Didio stated that the State should offer an allowance to add one student to the Class Size program especially during these difficult times. Dr. Baarstad stated that this has been a discussion at the state level, but he doesn't expect it to happen. He also pointed out that this will cause a layoff of teachers, and we are past March 15, for teacher or counselor layoff. Even if this is implemented, laying off more teachers would not be possible this year.

At 10:15 p.m., Mrs. Beaubien took an informal vote of the Board to approve continuing the meeting to 11:00 p.m., if necessary; all agreed.

On the secondary cut list, Ms. Phelps asked that the Celebration of Excellence dinner program be moved to the primary list. Bus routes, capacity of some of the buses, and eliminating high school bussing were discussed. Ms. Beaubien discussed work experience and school-to-career programs. She stated that cutting the time from both will hurt both programs. She stated it is better to keep one full time program, and if necessary, she suggested cutting the work experience position. Mr. Contini stated it would be a good idea to make the decision whether we will be keeping the two schools targeted for closing open in order to make a decision on what budget cuts will be approved.

Dr. Baarstad will return on May 20, 2008, with a report regarding the Board's suggestions.

REPORTS AND CONCERNS

- A. Report from the Strategic Plan Committees: There were none.
- B. Report from the Superintendent: There were none.
- C. Report from the Personnel Commission: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Beaubien adjourned the Open Session at 10:35 p.m. The Board will reconvene on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. for Closed Session; 6:00 p.m. for Open Session.

Date

Clerk

Date

Superintendent

/ki