

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

May 8, 2007  
**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION**

The Board meeting of May 8, 2007, was called to order by President Dolores Didio at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Didio asked if there were any public speakers for the Closed Session agenda items; there were none. The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 5:02 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)(3)*
- D. Consideration of Pupil Services Matters  
*Pursuant to Education Code §35146*
- E. Conference with Real Property Negotiations  
*Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8*  
*Site: Kelley Road*  
*Negotiator: Joel Kirschenstein, Sage Industries*

The Closed Session ended at 6:12 p.m. with no action to follow.

**CALL TO ORDER – OPEN SESSION**

**OPENING PROVISIONS**

President Didio called the meeting to order at 6:18 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, Richard W. Simpson, Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Services, Jo-Ann Yoos, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services and Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Max Beaman, Director, Secondary Education, Linda Peralta, Director, Elementary Education, Janet Cosaro, Director, Curriculum, were also in attendance.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the agenda with the following amendment: remove Consent Agenda Item G for discussion and a separate vote, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

**Recognitions**

The Board recognized the following:

**Classified Employee Outstanding Achievement Awards**

Gonzalo Alfaro, Custodian, Walnut Elementary; Ken Baldwin, Offset Duplicator Operator, Copy Center; Lynn Stroud, Warehouse/Copy Center Assistant

**Amgen Science Teacher of Excellence**

Steve Latshaw, teacher at Westlake Hills Elementary School, was recognized for receiving this honor. Mr. Latshaw was the only elementary teacher in the nation to receive this prestigious award.

**Eagle Awards (listing the sites where they completed their projects)**

Eric Haws, Acacia Elementary; Russell Jokela and Dylan Ackerman, Aspen Elementary; Christian Woolley, Cypress Elementary; Rock Talbo, Ladera Elementary; Brandon Neilson, Madroña Elementary, Josh Chapple, Sycamore Canyon; Ian Ormiston, Evan Murray, John Koman, Michael Shramm, Thousand Oaks High School; Erik Aidukas, Westlake High School

**CVUSD Robotics Club****Reports from Student Board Representatives**

Lily Xia, Thousand Oaks High School, Heather Higgins, Westlake High School, and Joey Du Val, Conejo Valley/Century High Schools, reported on events at their schools such as ASB/ASG activities, rallies, athletics, band events, club activities, school-to-career activities, field trips, testing, ASB, fund raisers and others. Larissa Avisov, Newbury Park High School, was not in attendance.

**Reports from Parent Support Organizations**

Aleta Smith, President, Conejo Council PTA, reported on events from the State convention. Highlights included resolutions that were voted on: Resolution A-Public School Governance Authority (adopted); Resolution B-Financing California's Public Schools (adopted); Resolution C-Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Underfunding (adopted); Resolution D-Comprehensive Waste Reduction in Schools; and Resolution E-Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) in Schools (passed). To find out more information about the Resolutions, the website is <http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/leg-conference.cfm>.

Betsy Connolly, District Advisory Council (DAC) Chairperson, reported from the April meeting, which focused on the challenges and benefits of internet use in the schools. Gary Pentis, Ventura County Sheriff's department, shared his experience on a number of issues, including the impact of cyber bullying and making sure that internet use is age appropriate. Dr. Simpson explained some of the challenges within the school district, explaining that students are being taught to evaluate internet resources carefully rather than to accept them at face value. The positive program presentations were from Conejo Valley and Century High Schools, and the DAC representatives were very impressed. The May meeting will feature elections for the Executive Board, Superintendent Contini will discuss his vision for next year, and Dr. Baarstad will discuss the possible school closure process.

**Report from the Conejo Schools Foundation**

Pam Garvin, CSF President, welcomed and introduced new Foundation Board members: Jackie Dollarhyde, Neil Jurgens, and Norman Nagel, and thanked Dianne McKay for rejoining the board. CSF will be sponsoring the All-District Band Festivals at the Kavli Theater May 21 (Newbury Park cluster),

22 (Westlake cluster), 23 (Thousand Oaks cluster). Ms. Garvin discussed the mailing of the newsletter last week, coordination naming opportunities effort for donors, and registration for the Grades K-5 Summer School program, which will have sites at Lang Ranch, Westlake Hills, Madroña, and Banyan Elementary Schools. Ms. Garvin also announced that the Amgen Science Alliance is going very well. Through this program, we are partnering with local college students who are interested in becoming science teachers. They are acting as mentors, lab assistants, and assisting biology teachers at all three high schools.

### **Comments from the Superintendent**

Superintendent Contini: 1) congratulated the staff, students and parents at Thousand Oaks High School for achieving a 6-year accreditation from WASC; 2) also congratulated the students and staff at Conejo Valley High School, whose API average was up by 171 points from last year. They earned the highest growth in API for alternative schools in the County; 3) applauded Lucia Lemieux, Los Cerritos teacher, and Deborah Kolodney, Westlake High School teacher, for having been awarded IMPACT II grants. IMPACT II is a national curriculum sharing and recognition program for teachers in grades K through 12 in partnership with the Ventura County Economic Development Association (VCEDA), the Ventura County Office of Education, and the Ventura County Star. Ms. Lemieux's grant was titled, "Lit Rocks," and Ms. Kolodney's was titled, "Exploring Our Future." 4) thanked the Teachers in our District for making a difference in the lives of children all year long, especially tomorrow on May 9, which is "The Day of the Teacher." Mr. Contini stated that our business is children, and that the teachers are on the "front line" doing their best to improve the lives of our children. Many, many thanks!

### **Comments from the Public**

Kathy Bonn, Librarian, Newbury Park High School, requested that the Board consider writing a letter regarding Assembly Bill 333, which would require the State of Cal funding to give access to at least one on line data base to every school in the state. This data base is a collection of references, maps periodic articles, transcripts, essays, images, photos for students to use. These data bases differ because they have been checked and are valid, trust worthy sources for students to use, providing a wealth of valid and current information from reputable sources. Because they are subscription use, they are a safe source for students. The price ranges from \$2,000 to \$3,500 annually. Mrs. Bonn provided a copy of the bill for the Board to review. (Mrs. Didio stated that she was aware of this issue, and agreed that the Board would support the bill. A letter will be sent to our legislators.)

### **Comments from Individual Board Members**

Mrs. Phelps and Dr. Stephens both received Meritorious Service Awards from the Ventura County Office of Education, and Mrs. Phelps presented Dr. Stephens' to him.

Dr. Stephens thanked Mrs. Garvin for mentioning the naming of facilities as an untapped resource of income for the District.

Mrs. Didio mentioned the Celebration of Excellence, where the Board honored students who excel in each area of study at their school, and one Top Scholar student from Conejo Valley/Century High Schools. It was a great evening for the students and their parents.

Mrs. Didio read a statement indicating that Mr. Dunn had breached the Board Protocols by calling parents and staff independent of the Board regarding the issue of closing schools due to declining enrollment. Mrs. Didio indicated that Mr. Dunn also worked outside of a Board-endorsed process that

Dr. Barstaad asked the Board to follow. Mrs. Didio stated that Mr. Dunn's actions caused concern and fear in the community, acted outside his authority as an elected official, and side-stepped the Protocols. As President of the Board, she requested the other board members to censure Mr. Dunn and his actions as stated in the Protocols with by voting aloud. Members Beaubien, Phelps, and Stephens responded that they agreed. Mr. Dunn asked to respond, but Mrs. Didio stated that this was not the time to discuss the issue. Mrs. Didio asked Mr. Dunn if he signed the Protocols; he responded yes. Mr. Dunn asked if he could explain what happened and was very upset when Mrs. Didio continued with the rest of the Agenda. No action was taken.

## **ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL**

### **Board of Education and Superintendent**

#### **A. Adoption of the New 2007 Federal Assurance Statements for the Local SELPA Plan**

Mrs. Phelps moved to adopt the new 2007 Federal Assurance Statements, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Personnel Services**

#### **B. Elimination of Classified Position- Sign Language Interpreter**

Mrs. Phelps moved that due to lack of funds and lack of work, it is in the best interest of the School District for the Board of Education to direct the Superintendent to commence implementing the procedures to delete the Sign Language Interpreter position as requested, effective June 29, 2007. The layoff proceeding will be in accordance with the provisions of the CSEA Contract of Agreement between the District and Chapter 620, CSEA, and the California Education Code, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Instructional Services**

#### **C. CIF/Marmonte League Representatives**

Dr. Stephens moved to ratify the names recommended as official representatives to the Marmonte League and CIF for the 2007/2008 school year, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0.

## **ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **A. Approval of Minutes:**

1. Regular Meeting of April 24, 2007

#### **B. Personnel Assignment Orders:**

1. Certificated: #7760 through #7793

*Teachers, Administrator*

2. Classified: C-3688 to C-3705

*Administrative Assistant, Administrative Assistant – Confidential, Child Care Assistant, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Construction Supervisor, Custodian, Director, Fiscal Services, Health Clerk, Instructional Media Technician, Intermediate Clerk Typist, Paraprofessional/Special Ed, School Office Manager*

3. Exempt: E-7014 to E-7046

*Athletic Coach, Campus Supervisor, Proctor, Specialist, Student Helper*

- C. Expulsion:
  - 1. Banyan Elementary School #40-06/07E
- D. Overnight Trip Request:
  - 1. Westlake High School Spirit Cheer
- F. Purchase Order Report #701
- G. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment
- H. ~~Acceptance of Cash and Equipment Donations~~ *Pulled to discuss separately*

**SEPARATE DISCUSSION – PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

**G. Acceptance of Cash and Equipment Donations**

Mrs. Phelps moved to accept the Cash and Equipment Donations, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Mrs. Phelps thanked all those who give so generously to the schools. Motion carried 5-0.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Instructional Services**

- A. Approval of Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program Funding Application 2007/08
- B. MOU with California Partnership for Achieving Student Success
- C. Career-Applied Technology Education Grant Application
- D. Approval of Physical Education Courses of Study – Grades K-5
- E. Approval of Science Instructional Materials – Grades K-12
- F. Adoption of Textbooks for Middle School Career Technical Education
- G. Thousand Oaks High School Schedule Change

**REPORTS AND CONCERNS**

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

President Didio adjourned the Open Session at 8:10 p.m. The Board will reconvene on Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at 5:00 p.m. for Closed Session; 6:00 p.m. for Open Session.

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Date

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Clerk

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Date  
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Superintendent