

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

May 22, 2001

MINUTES

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 22, 2001, at the District Office Board Room, 1400 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California.

CALL TO ORDER

Present were Board members Dorothy L. Beaubien, Mary Jo Del Campo, Dolores Didio, Patricia H. Phelps, and Timothy G. Stephens. Also present were Jerry C. Gross, Superintendent; Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Richard W. Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services; and Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Staff present during the Regular Session included Sheila Carlson, Director, Staff Development and Grants, Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum, Jim Silberberger, Director, Classified Personnel.

ROLL CALL

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Patricia H. Phelps, President. The Board discussed Certificated: Summer School counselors, certificated teachers; Classified: child care assistant, child nutrition assistants I, custodian, substitutes; Exempt: specialists, student helpers, campus supervisors, proctors, athletic coaches; dismissal/discipline/release and labor relations. The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

President Phelps led the Pledge of Allegiance and read announcements for the Board meeting that reviewed instructions regarding smoking, cell phones, Speaker's Cards, Public Statement Cards, and where the public can find agendas and Board procedure information.

PLEDGE

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda as amended: (under Class II, Action Items – General, Business Services, add attachment, page 23A, to A.R. #9: 2001-2002 Tax Sheltered Annuity/Custodial Account Program; under Class III, Action Items – Consent: add Agenda Report #16A, Page 43A: Lunch Shelter Alterations—Westlake Hills Elementary). seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Dr. Gross: 1) congratulated University Elementary School, the staff, students and parents who were honored last Friday by the U.S. Government's announcement that they had been awarded a National Blue Ribbon. Dr. Gross visited the school to thank each teacher and left a cake for "their eating pleasure." The national celebration in Washington, D.C. will be in the fall. 2) also congratulated the middle school administrative teams and students who spent the day last week filling 1,000 backpacks with school supplies to ship to Spitak, Armenia, for the elementary schools that were devastated by a major earthquake a few years ago. Thanks to the middle school students and staff who participated in this effort. 3) stated that this week is "Classified Appreciation Week." He noted that for those who depend so heavily on the assistance and support of classified personnel know just how important the proficient, professional, enthusiastic and absolutely essential classified staff members are to making the District the success it is. 4) discussed his visit to a professional development activity in the morning for physical education teachers at the Teen Center. He was able to join in on some of

SUPT. REMARKS

the training in how to deliver physical education within an English/Language Arts type format. 5) mentioned that he attended the "What I Learned" presentations by students in Drew Passalacqua and Dede Dryer's classrooms at Redwood Middle School. Students shared what they learned during the study of the Renaissance period in history. 6) just learned earlier in the evening that the Conejo Valley Unified School District is now the largest school district in the County.

SUPT.
REMARKS
(CONT.)

Jim Silberberger, Director, Classified Personnel, presented Outstanding Achievement Awards for Classified Employees to Shirley Block, Office Manager, Redwood Middle School and Laurie Ruggiero, Secretary, Special Education Department.

RECOGNI-
TIONS

Jim Martin, principal, Conejo Valley and Century High Schools, presented a Top Scholar award certificate to graduating senior Billy MacKelvey, Conejo Valley High School. Top Scholar from Century High School is Corrin Hogle, who was unable to attend.

Max Beaman, principal, Newbury Park High School presented Valedictorian award certificates for: David B. Bennett, Max Ryan Helix, and Alex Yosuke Omoto.

Joanne Yoos, principal, Thousand Oaks High School, presented Valedictorian award certificates for: Joseph Bullock, David William Butler, Holly Margaret Jane Fish, Christine J. Soohoo, and Veronica Tatiana Sovero.

Ron Lipari, principal, Westlake High School, presented Valedictorian award certificates for: Brian Douglas Augustyn, Michael Edward Cody, Ian Andrew Fry, Christopher T. Gleason, Jessica Rene Loring, Arielle A. Myhre, Christopher J. Rackoff, Christopher A. Seabock, Jason Michael Steiner, Julia E. Thompson, and Pia Young.

The following students were awarded certificates of appreciation for their Eagle Scout projects that they completed at our school sites: Philip Bourassa, Clint Haglund, Cameron Nielsen, Stephen Akers, Anthony R. Grue, Nicholas Osinski, Christopher Castagnetto, Marshall Vance, Zack Vogel, Steve A. Leys, Travis Harmon, and Adam Kuch.

The following athletic teams were presented certificates of congratulations as Marmonte League Champions: Thousand Oaks High School Boys' Varsity Swim Team; Westlake High School Varsity Diving Team, Boys' Varsity Golf Team, and Boy's Varsity Tennis Team. Both the Thousand Oaks High School Softball Team and the Westlake High School Baseball Team were scheduled to be honored, but were at CIF playoff games. They will be invited to the June 12 meeting.

The following individuals spoke to the issue of Manzanita Elementary School's current student ethnic enrollment: Pam Schneider, Julie Escudero, Maggie Wahl Linnemeier, Lisa Conahey, Jessica Franzen, and Elyse Papke. A major focus of their remarks was their concern that the District was wrong in continuing to approve School Choice application for Caucasian parents from Manzanita wanting to transfer to other schools. Sixteen Public Statement Cards were also filed on the same topic. Mrs. Didio questioned the current policy regarding School Choice; Dr. Simpson responded that Class Size Reduction has limited the capacity of School Choice, with the largest in-coming population in kindergarten. He mentioned that for the year 2000-2001, the School Choice exchange at Manzanita was: 10 students left on school choice, 9 students entered on school choice, and 17 incoming kindergarten children applied to attend other schools in our District, out of a population of approximately 550 at Manzanita. Mrs. Didio asked if students from the new development in the area were going to attend other schools. Gary Mortimer replied that since the boundaries were changed several years ago to address overcrowding, some are scheduled to attend Manzanita and some will attend

PUBLIC
CONCERNS

Madroña. Dr. Gross stated that he has spoken with parents from Manzanita, and is looking into several options to address their concerns. Dr. Stephens mentioned that the Underachieving Schools grant that was recently written includes a counselor, a literacy trainer, and banking time. The Manzanita audience responded that all the amenities that are included in the grant are for non-English speaking students. Dr. Stephens and Mrs. Phelps assured the audience that the District will be looking into options to resolve issues. Dr. Gross indicated that under State law, School Choice requests by Manzanita parents could not be denied by the District at this time.

**PUBLIC
CONCERNS**

Dr. Stephens and Mrs. Phelps congratulated University Elementary School for being chosen as a Blue Ribbon School.

**BOARD
REMARKS**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #5591 - #5601, Classified #C-0339 - #C-0356 and #E-2530 - #E-2578, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

PAO'S

The following assignment was announced:

Cheryl Freitas was appointed as Elementary Principal, on Class IX, Step B of the management salary schedule for the 2001-2002 school year, effective July 1, 2001.

Mrs. Del Campo moved to approve the amendment of Policy 728.6.2—Informal District Meetings (Second Reading), seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**AMEND
POLICIES**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the amendment of Policy 156.2 Conflict of Interest (First Reading), seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #2 filed.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the amendment of Policy 499.3 Co-curricular Transportation Fee-High School and 499.4 Band Uniform Replacement Fee-High School (First Reading), seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #3 filed.

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the amendment of Policy 401.2/527.3 Section 504-Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (First Reading), seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #4 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the amendment of Policy 603.1 Pre-Placement Physical Requirements (First Reading), seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #5 filed.

Mrs. Del Campo moved to expel student 25-00/01E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective May 8, 2001, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated May 8, 2001, readmit student 25-00/01E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 25-00/01E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after January 28, 2002, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #6 filed.

EXPULSION

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the attached list of facility improvement projects for the tributary schools for the 2001-2002 TOPASS Projects, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #7 filed.

TOPASS

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the Certification for Compliance with the requirements of the TOPASS Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #8 filed.

Dr. Stephens moved to approve the list of vendors for the Tax Sheltered Annuity/Custodial Account Program for the 2001-2002 fiscal year, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #9 filed.

**ANNUITY/
CUST. ACCT.
PROGRAM**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the attached interfund and intrafund transfers as listed, seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #10 filed.

**TRANSFER
FUNDS**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R.'s filed: Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 8, 2001; Certification of Education Technology Staff Development Program for Grades 4-8, A.R. #11 filed; High School Science Textbook and Materials Adoption, A.R. #12 filed; Purchase Order Report #585, A.R. #13 filed; Warrant List—Items over \$1,000, A.R. #14 filed; Rejection of Insurance Claim (Warren), A.R. #15 filed; Award of Bid ½--Asphalt Paving Project, A.R. #16 filed; Lunch Shelter Alterations—Westlake Hills Elementary, A.R. #16A filed.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

INFORMATION

The Board received information regarding amending Policy 271.1 Compensation Concept for Managers and Policy 291.1 Compensation Concept for Confidential Employees. There were no questions or comments.

**INFORMA-
TION**

The Board received information regarding approval of the 2001/02 Consolidated Application. There were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding amending Policy 834.9: State and Federal Uniform Complaint Policy. There were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding amending Policy 394: Policies—Chapter 1 Program. There were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding the Academic Performance Index Award Budgets. Mrs. Phelps questioned the budget; Mr. Mortimer explained that there have been two awards: one for \$63/student which went to most of our schools, and another for employee bonuses. Mrs. Didio asked where the matching funds come from; Mr. Mortimer said that they come from the State. The employees receive \$591.32 each, and for each employee, the State sends the school the same amount.

The Board received information regarding English/Language Arts K-2 Standards Adoption. Mrs. Beaubien commented that she was pleased to see that spelling will be taught. She mentioned that sometimes she visits the schools and sees student stories with misspelled words not corrected. She does not agree with that style of teaching. Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum, responded by going through the State Standards with Mrs. Beaubien to show the progression of spelling words and techniques. Mrs. Didio asked how students with dyslexia were addressed in the Standards. Mrs. Mutz stated that at the Reading Results assessment, the progression of each student is evident and problems would be addressed at that time. Mrs. Didio questioned some of the phoenemic examples; Mrs. Mutz agreed to review the examples. Dr. Stephens stated that this adoption is a quantum leap beyond what we had from the past. He asked when these Standards would be implemented; Mrs. Mutz replied next year. Dr. Stephens asked if the District could have a report card in grades 3-6 similar to that of the K-2 students. Mrs. Mutz replied that the committee working on elementary report cards is continually assessing what should be addressed on the report, and Standards could be a part of

the grade 3-6 card as well as a grade. Dr. Stephens suggested that the committee look at other district's card for examples; Mrs. Mutz replied that would be done. Dr. Simpson stated that the District has funded a committee to be led by Linda Vranesh, Director, Elementary Education, which will also include parents and UACT representatives. Mrs. Didio resurfaced the spelling issue and asked how often the students will see a repeat of the spelling words and grammar rules until they become proficient; Mrs. Mutz replied that as each year the material becomes more complex, the material needs to be embedded in meaning. Dr. Stephens asked if the assessments used for the Standards will be duplicated by the District and distributed to the schools; Mrs. Mutz replied that yes, some material will be identified as that which must be assessed and copies will be made within legal boundaries. Dr. Stephens complimented Mrs. Mutz on the work that has been accomplished by the team that has been working on the English/Language Arts K-2 Standards Adoption.

The Board received information regarding the Third Quarter Financial Statements. Dr. Stephens asked a couple of questions about the report, which Mr. Mortimer clarified. Nick Quidwai submitted a Speaker's Card to the item, and stated that he did not agree with the District's choice to place lottery funds in the General Fund. Mrs. Didio questioned the fact that the report shows that expenses exceed income; Mr. Mortimer explained that the estimated ending balance does not include school carryover, PSU carryover, and others that would be on the net beginning balance at the beginning of the school year. This does, however, reflect a tighter budget for next year. Mrs. Didio questioned the utility account and the expected increases; Mr. Mortimer responded that the budget included projected increases in all utilities. Mrs. Didio asked if the grant information from the District's grant writer will be separated from the grants applied for at the schools. Dr. Gross stated that the grant writer's grants will be highlighted for the Board. Mrs. Didio questioned whether the grant writer could pursue grants for students to work in the entertainment industry. There were no further questions from the Board.

There were no items of Legislation.

LEGIS.

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

PERS. COMM.

President Phelps adjourned the regular session at 8:48 p.m. to reconvene on June 12, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

ADJOURN

Date

Clerk

Date

Secretary