



CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Conejo Valley High School (CVUSD Board Room)
1402 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Monday, May 19, 2025

MINUTES

1. OPENING PROVISIONS

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Call to Order: President Powell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Board Members present: Board President Lisa Powell, Board Vice President Karen Sylvester, Board Trustees Lauren Gill and Cindy Goldberg, and Student Trustee Aidan Light. Board Clerk Bill Gorback was absent.

Administration present: Dr. Mark McLaughlin, Superintendent; Dr. Victor Hayek, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services; Kenneth Loo, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional and Student Services; and Shauna Ashmore, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Sylvester made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by Trustee Goldberg. **Motion carried: 4-0, with a preferential “yes” vote from Trustee Light.**

D. Comments – Public (Limited to Special Board Meeting Agenda Items Only)

President Powell announced that there were no public comment requests submitted, and the Board convened the Study Session.

2. STUDY SESSION

A. Review and Adjust Governance Calendar, District Highlights, and District Goals and Objectives

President Powell provided background on the Study Session discussion format, and the board then discussed the following items:

- **Governance Calendar:**
The Board discussed the drafted Title IX resolution that was brought forward as an information item at a previous meeting and reached a consensus to approve a finalized version at a future board meeting with the understanding that it will be brought forward

for review on a periodic basis, rather than annually, to allow for necessary adjustments. After a brief discussion on several items recommended by CSBA and the appropriate timing and frequency of board self-evaluations, ***the board reached a consensus to keep the Governance Calendar unchanged.***

- **District Highlights:**

Each division provided several highlights of interest from this year's efforts (Attachment #2). The board discussed the following items:

- **Placement of the District Highlights document on the CVUSD website** – Dr. McLaughlin to discuss appropriate website placement with Kim Gold.
- **College/Career Indicator Goals** – ***The board reached a consensus to request a presentation on this topic during the fall of the 2025-26 school year.***
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB)** – Dr. McLaughlin explained that the current responsibilities of the Assistant Director of the DEIB department have transitioned to a school site role to provide support as needed.
- **Grading for Mastery** – the board discussed the importance of continued work on establishing consistent content specific grading practices and an implementation timeline for the next school year. The board-requested presentation during the next school year will focus on implementation progress to date, participation data, and philosophical pillars of grading practices. The board instructed staff to communicate their expectation that consistent grading practices be implemented across all school sites.
- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)** – the board discussed key areas related to SEL, including updates on counselor professional development, grade-span lesson planning, efforts to standardize counselor roles, feedback from teachers and students on SEL lessons, adjustments to curriculum topics, challenges with finding time for SEL within the school schedule, and concerns about sustaining mental health support with potential funding cuts.
- **Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Enrollment** – the board discussed disparities in enrollment and class sizes, waitlist and school choice issues, the timeline for revising school choice policies, the budget impact of TK, demographic trends, and ongoing efforts to promote enrollment through outreach and marketing.
- **Inclusion Plan for Students with Disabilities** – a board member noted the addition of targeted training for principals, and the addition of offering professional learning on neuro affirming practices.
- **Employee Handbook** – a board member inquired about the development of an employee handbook and its intended purpose. Mrs. Ashmore explained that the handbook will align policies with guidance, provide essential information, and ensure consistent communication of policies across staff.
- **Core Literature** – a board member noted the importance of adding titles by underrepresented authors and expressed a desire to continue expanding the core literature list.

- **District Goals and Objectives:**

The board reviewed the highlighted district goals and objectives (Attachment #3) and discussed the following topics:

- **LCAP Format and Alignment:**

- The LCAP template format works and overlapping content from the previous year was removed.
- A "cheat sheet" was created to align site actions with the LCAP and district goals and make information more digestible for the community.
- The LCAP was revised based on new state goals – not all district goals are located within the LCAP.
- The board emphasized not abandoning strategic goals that are not stated within the LCAP.
- The board reached a consensus to request that district staff add the District Highlights and Goals documents onto the CVUSD website as appropriate.

- **LCAP Goals Review:**

- **A-G Completion** – this goal is linked to the current LCAP with the desired outcome based on data from the 2022-23 school year and higher expected gains from student groups with prior lower performance. The board discussed:
 - The anticipated timeline for when A-G Counselors will have the greatest impact
 - The district's ability to sustain A-G Counselors through Career Technical Education state funding
 - Data on A-G Counselor effectiveness – Mr. Loo will start to gather this information.
 - Percentage of students attending college after high school completion – data is available up to the point of college acceptance information
 - Challenges with course offerings affecting A-G eligibility
- **Budget and Enrollment** – Dr. Hayek provided background on the budget goals evolving based on multiyear projections. The board discussed:
 - Rightsizing staff – district to site level
 - Effect of declining enrollment on electives, specialty course offerings, and academies
 - Use of reserve funding
 - Consideration of the Fair Act as a top priority
 - Changes to Ethnic Studies requirements and current participation numbers

- ***The board reached a consensus to move the following Board Key Actions and Priorities forward to the next year unchanged:***

1. Focus on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) as the district's instructional framework
2. Expand diverse core literature options at the secondary level
3. Expand inclusion through increased co-teaching and other opportunities.
4. Increase the number of graduates who have completed A-G requirements, especially unduplicated students
5. Support the implementation of Grading for Mastery principles through training, resources, and collaboration opportunities for staff
6. Continue to implement robust mental wellness services and social emotional learning across the district
7. Adhere to the Fair Act in the adoption of K-12 history/social science curricula
8. Identify and communicate Community School pillars for CVUSD schools

- **Crossing Guard Update** – The board discussed the City of Thousand Oaks Crossing Guard Program and the proposed changes discussed at the recent City Council meeting, including a one-year pause on program cuts for one year to allow time for data analysis, trend identification, collaboration with district leaders and families at schools considered at risk. Dr. McLaughlin clarified that the district previously communicated to the City stated that the crossing guard program and city streets fall under city jurisdiction, and not the district's jurisdiction. Trustee Gill recommended that board members refrain from attending future City Council meetings on this matter.

The Board reached a consensus to discuss Item C. - Infrastructure and Facilities prior to Item B. - Enrollment and Budget. To reflect that change, the agenda items are noted as such.

B. Infrastructure and Facilities

Dr. Hayek provided an overview of facility needs identified over the past few years as part of the district's facilities planning process. He discussed the reservation of some Measure I funds for Adult Education and CTE programs, the use of deferred maintenance/TOPASS funds to address facility updates and upcoming projects, including pool renovations and turf and field replacements, and the potential for building a new shared athletic facility. Dr. Hayek responded

to questions from board members regarding deferred maintenance funding needs, how projects are prioritized, potential cost for building a shared athletic facility, the potential for pursuing another bond measure, the timing and implementation process for such a measure and its projected impact on taxpayers, and the use of a polling company to gauge public support for a bond. ***The board reached a consensus to place an item on a future meeting agenda to discuss potential interest in pursuing a future bond measure.***

C. Enrollment and Budget

Dr. Hayek presented an enrollment and budget performance overview, which included historical data on enrollment 2014 to 2024, student enrollment trends, forecasted enrollment from 2025 to 2034, general fund reserve versus expenditures, staffing FTE by function, how enrollment affects the budget, and recommendations for the board. Dr. Hayek and Dr. McLaughlin responded to questions from board members regarding student attendance data, long-term strategies for rightsizing district facilities and programs, budget recommendations based on grade spans, site capacities, staffing expenses, potential remote course options, multiyear projections on master schedule and course configuration, and counselor staffing ratios.

D. Board Budget

Dr. McLaughlin provided an overview of the annual budget allocations for the Board and Superintendent and addressed questions from board members regarding which budget covers overtime costs, the financial impact of board and district staff attending the California School Boards Association's Annual Education Conference, and the potential inclusion of Title IX complaints as a board priority. ***The board reached a consensus to pause attendance at the California School Boards Association's Annual Education Conference for one year, with the exception of Trustee Gill attending in her role as a Delegate Assembly member. The board also reached a consensus not to add Title IX complaints as a board priority at this time.***

3. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

President Powell adjourned the Special Board Meeting at 12:24 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, at Conejo Valley High School in the CVUSD Board Room, 1402 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

June 4, 2025

Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Thibault", written over a horizontal line.

Board Clerk

June 4, 2025

Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Gill", written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent

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<https://www.conejousd.org/domain/122>