

CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CVUSD Board Room
1402 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 7, 2020

MINUTES

1. DISCUSSION SESSION

A. Public Comments

President Goldberg announced that there were no public comment cards submitted, and the Board commenced the Discussion Session at 4:03 p.m.

B. California School Boards Association Conference Debrief

President Goldberg asked each Board member to share a few items taken away from the CSBA Annual Education Conference. Some memorable events/ideas from CSBA were as follows:

- ***Equity Access for All Students*** - presented by the Simi Valley Unified School District Board of Education. This presentation covered:
 - How to open doors and close the opportunity gap for all students.
 - Idea of AP/IB courses for all students
 - Used an outside consultant to issue a student survey regarding growth mindset, issues affecting school work and AP/IB awareness
 - Created Student Insight Cards with picture of student, information gathered from their survey, and the name of a person on campus that they stated they would be comfortable speaking to in an effort to provide more social emotional support.

The Board and District staff discussed student privacy laws with respect to the Student Insight Cards and the process used for the student survey. Dr. McLaughlin stated that he would reach out to the Superintendent for Simi Valley Unified for more information.

- ***Parent Ambassadors and Their Roles in Connecting Families, Schools, Staff and Community*** - presented by Moreno Valley Unified School District. This presentation detailed their Formal Parent Ambassador Program, where parents or family members that are active at the school sites are recruited through an application process to meet on a regular basis and learn about the school district, programs that are offered for students at each site, and serve as a knowledgeable information source and voice in the community.

The Board and District staff discussed how this program was formed, opportunities to create a parent mentor program in our District with the initial target of incoming kindergarten families, and the background and purpose for the application process

- ***Lessons in Leadership for Student Board Members*** – presented by three student board members and one board of education member. This presentation covered:
 - Student board member roles and responsibilities
 - The importance of communication, transparency and keeping the Board updated
 - The power of creating a more inclusive stand from the student perspective
 - AB261

- Creating a network of peers to build relationships with other student board members with common goals
- Time management suggestions

The Board and student representatives discussed student board member prioritization of time and demands, the option of considering a lower classman as the Student Board Trustee or Student DAC Chairperson, future student attendance at the CSBA Conference, and the structure of positions within Student DAC.

- **Budget** – this presentation covered budget strategies, long-term sustainability, the effects of receiving grants and one-time monies on the budgeting process, and making strategic decisions based on school district budgeting issues.
- **Go Open Is a State of Mind** – presented by Grossmont High School District. The presentation covered using open source materials as opposed to textbooks, providing materials and curriculum that can be retained, reused, revised, remixed and redistributed, and personalizing learning through flexible, highly adaptable materials.

The Board and District staff discussed concerns with teachers and departments providing a balanced viewpoint on what is being taught, covering standards in a non-biased way, student interest in online work, benefit of solid, vetted materials for Next Generation Science Standards, copyright issues, cost of this option, and material options available for District access.

- **Electronic Correspondence and the Public Records Act** – presented by two board members and two attorneys. This presentation covered developing policies for employee and student computer use, disclosable documents for Public Records Act requests and Brown Act violations.
- **Special Education Litigation** – this presentation covered the cost and reasons for increased litigation and OAH filings, lawsuits that set precedents, the effects of changes in court rulings, and procedural and substantive violations.

The Board and District staff discussed the importance of procedural training, goal writing for the IEP process, and the option for outsourcing IEP meeting facilitators.

- **Schools and Courts - Critical Issues Facing Schools in 2020.** This presentation covered things that can affect Board meetings, including public comments and closed session. Also discussed were limits on student cell phone use, new law AB218 regarding childhood sexual abuse, safe hiring practices, teacher training on employee sexual misconduct, and protection against false allegations.
- **Laws and Policies Supporting LGBTQ Students.** This presentation covered anti-bullying laws, roles and contributions to be included in social instruction, AB1266 regarding school access for all students in accordance with their gender identity, staff training to accommodate and respect LGBTQ students and terminologies, and interest in participating in the Equality California Report Card survey.
- **Onboarding New Board Members.** This presentation covered the onboarding process for new Board members, including a welcome tour of locations and equipment, learning about families, swear in process, and presentations for the whole board on the onboarding process broken down into multiple meetings. These meetings include department introductions, financial meetings, building relationships, discussing concerns, understanding Board

protocols, and acknowledging strengths and improvement needed.

- **Student Voice** – presented by Placer Union School District. This presentation covered details on this group, which includes four student board member representatives from each high school that sit with but below the Board during Board meetings. Also discussed were the application process, Board policy covering the rules on responsibilities of these students, training modules designed by students, and methods used to solicit feedback from the student population on critical questions and topics of interest.

Dr. Connolly stated that she planned to send in four other topics in written form to the Superintendent so that he can determine what to share with the Board.

The Discussion Session ended at 5:28 p.m.

2. **CLOSED SESSION**

A. Public Comments

President Goldberg announced that there were no public comment cards submitted, and the Board convened into Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. where the following issues were discussed:

B. Consideration of Student Discipline, Education Code §35146, Action other than expulsion

Closed Session ended at 5:57 p.m.

3. **OPEN SESSION**

A. Call the Meeting to Order and Roll Call

Call to Order and Roll Call: President Connolly called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Board Members present: President Cindy Goldberg, Vice President Jenny Fitzgerald, Bill Gorback, Sandee Everett, Dr. Betsy Connolly, and Student Board Trustee Jordan Scott.

Administration present: Dr. Mark McLaughlin, Superintendent; Victor Hayek, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services; Jeanne Valentine, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Lou Lichtl, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services and Dr. Lisa Miller, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Announcements from Closed Session and Open Session Procedures

President Goldberg announced that the following items were discussed in Closed Session:

B. Consideration of Student Discipline, Education Code §35146, Action other than expulsion

D. Approval of the Agenda

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved to approve the agenda with the amendment to pull Consent Agenda Items 5B, 5G, 5J, 5I, 5M, and 5N, and to move Information Item 6C to the beginning of the General Information Discussion section, seconded by Mrs. Everett. **Motion carried 5-0.**

E. Reports from Student Reporters

Century Academy: Ginger Libby

Conejo Valley High School: No student reporter present

Newbury Park High School: Paige Hajiloo

Thousand Oaks High School: Kiara Benioff
Westlake High School: Kyle Huemme

Students reported on: new students joining Century Academy, success seminars for students, early acceptance letters from colleges for graduating seniors, spirit week activities, ASG blood drives, winter rallies, visual arts performances and competitions, preview nights for incoming freshmen, finals week, boys and girls state nominations for American Legion Summer Delegates, Center for Advanced Studies research projects, registration for next year's classes, information sessions on community college scholarship applications, college information sessions, outdoor school camp counselor selections, electives previews for students, sports events and accomplishments, winter formal dances, cabinet officer leadership retreats, ASB and class elections, and potential prom site visits.

F. Reports from Parent Support Organizations

Parent Teacher Association (PTA): Rocky Capobianco, PTA President, spoke about the PTA providing financial support to 22 schools in the Conejo Valley, the Reflections Art Program Annual Gallery and Awards Ceremony, the 12th District PTA Awards Ceremony, PTA providing gift favors for the annual holiday dinner for the homeless in our area, and the Annual Principals' Roundtable meeting, which focused on students' needs and collaboration.

Gifted and Talented Education District Advisory Council (GATE DAC): Bijaya Eaton, GATE DAC Chairperson, spoke about five popular district enrichment fun Friday activities, weekly and monthly school enrichment lunch and afterschool events, practice for the Odyssey of the Mind event, review of the GATE calendar and events web page, the Annual Invention Convention, parent information meetings regarding GATE programs, guest speakers at the GATE DAC meetings, GATE identification testing, participation on the District's Budget Committee, and the importance of fostering and facilitating learning for students individually.

G. Comments – Public

President Goldberg announced that there were 13 public comment cards submitted:

- Speaker 1 announced that everything is good at Westlake High School and wished Mr. Gorback a happy birthday.
- Speaker 2 spoke about her displeasure with events that occurred at the last Board meeting and spoke in support of the alternative assignment policy.
- Speaker 3 spoke in support of Dr. McLaughlin and the CVUSD staff in educating students and balancing the budget.
- Speaker 4 spoke against using legal resources for Dr. McLaughlin's complaint.
- Speaker 5 spoke about gender identity and in favor of the HEART curriculum.
- Speaker 6 yielded time to Speaker 7.
- Speaker 7 spoke in favor of focusing on literature with positive values and about the behavior of the Board during Board meetings.
- Speaker 8 spoke about sexual education curriculum and in favor of the HEART curriculum.
- Speaker 9 thanked the Board members for serving and adding a student Board representative, and encouraged more acceptance for all attitudes and viewpoints.
- Speaker 10 thanked Dr. McLaughlin for his leadership and vision for CVUSD and spoke about the importance of openness to build an inclusive and positive environment to support all students.
- Speaker 11 spoke about training for Board members regarding how to address sensitive issues with Student Board Members that may breach confidentiality.
- Speaker 12 spoke in favor of training for the Board regarding Student Board member rights.

H. Comments – Board of Education

The Board commented on: addressing the Student Board Trustee appropriately, thanked all speakers and community members for their comments and written letters, congratulated students on performances, thanked the student reporters for their reports, congratulated GATE DAC on their new seat on the District's Budget Committee, highlighted CSBA Annual Education Conference events, attendance at District and school events, congratulated student Alissa Ramirez for her feature on KTLA regarding playing football for NPHS, congratulated students who won awards for the PTA Reflections Program, the request for an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss student vaping and drug use, and wished students good luck on their finals.

Student Board Trustee Scott commented on: the upcoming Student DAC meeting and new member recruitment process, thanked the student reporters, parent support organizations and public speakers for their comments, and thanked anyone who reached out to her after questions posed to her at the last Board meeting.

I. Comments - Superintendent

Dr. McLaughlin congratulated Acacia, Earths and Sycamore Canyon for their recent designation as Distinguished Schools, attended the 12th District PTA Reflections Ceremony, thanked the Maintenance and Operations crew and irrigation team for their time and hard work, and emphasized that he is always open to talk with employees and work through their issues.

4. ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

A. Human Resources – Approval of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 School Year Calendars

Mr. Gorbach made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. There was no discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

B. Instructional Services – Approval of Amendments to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5121 – Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement

Mrs. Fitzgerald made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. The Board and District staff discussed the removal of obstacles for students at all levels to participate in dual enrollment and the process of providing information out to school site staffs regarding the changes in the policy and regulation related to dual enrollment and attendance. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

C. Instructional Services – Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 5127 – Graduation Ceremonies and Activities

Mrs. Fitzgerald made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. President Goldberg announced that one public comment card was submitted:

- Speaker 1 spoke about students with disabilities being afforded the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies and activities.

The Board and District staff discussed the process to communication graduation information out to parents and students, the protocol for cap and gown orders or requests to loan, and recommended verbiage changes and clarifications. **Motion carried: 5-0, with an honorary “yes” vote from Student Board Trustee Scott.**

D. Instructional Services – Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Fitzgerald made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Gorbach. There was no discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with an honorary “yes” vote from Student Board Trustee Scott.**

E. Instructional Services – Approval of Amendments to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6146.11 – Alternative Credits Toward Graduation

Mr. Gorback made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. There was no discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with an honorary “yes” vote from Student Board Trustee Scott.**

F. Instructional Services – Approval of Amendments to Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6146.12 – High School Credit for Concurrent Enrollment in High School and College Classes

Mr. Gorback made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Mr. Lichtl addressed a necessary correction, to which Board members agreed. **Motion carried: 5-0, with an honorary “yes” vote from Student Board Trustee Scott.**

G. Instructional Services – Approval of New Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6175 – Migrant Education

Dr. Connolly made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Gorback. There was no discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

H. Board of Education – Authorization for Board President Goldberg to Consult District Counsel – BB 9124

Mr. Gorback made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald. President Goldberg announced that one public comment card was submitted:

- Speaker 1 spoke about the Superintendent filing a lawsuit, and was asked by the Board President to refrain from speaking off topic.

President Goldberg clarified that discussion on this agenda item is limited to whether the District is exposed to liability regarding a complaint about work environment, and that a legal opinion to determine if the Board President should be authorized to consult with District legal counsel is needed. The Board discussed why this agenda item was presented in open session instead of closed session, potential liability for the District and usage of the District’s attorney or outside counsel, and exceptions for open meeting rules.

Mrs. Fitzgerald raise a Point of Order to specifically address the topic of granting President Goldberg to authorization to consult District counsel, which President Goldberg upheld. Further discussion continued on which legal firm would be appropriate to use. Mrs. Everett stated that she planned to vote against this item because there is no current lawsuit filed.

Motion carried: 4-1, with Mrs. Everett voting no.

5. ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

President Goldberg stated that the Board would start the approval of the Consent Agenda by addressing pulled items 5B, 5G, 5J, 5I, 5M and 5N in the order given.

B. Instructional Services – Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000

Mrs. Everett made the motion to approve, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald. There was no discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

G. Instructional Services – Approval of Contract – IXL Learning – Newbury Park High School

Mrs. Everett made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. The Board and District staff discussed how students access the program, the purpose of the program, how parents are notified about program availability, feedback on effectiveness from teachers and students, and the number of licenses purchased. Mrs. Fitzgerald suggested that in the future, data on effectiveness be provided on items that are coming forward to the Board for approval as renewal items, programs or contracts, to which Mr. Lichtl agreed. Mr. Lichtl will find the specific number of licenses that the District has purchased and provide that information back to the Board. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

I. Business Services – Approval of 2019-2020 Comprehensive Safety Plans

Mrs. Fitzgerald made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. The Board and District staff discussed the inclusion of plans regarding the location of Special Education students, language changes and clarifications, emergency action and reverse evacuation plans, location of information for students with IEPs, and disaster team and volunteer support. Dr. McLaughlin offered to provide the Board with a copy of a safety plan for their review, to which the Board agreed. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

J. Business Services – Approval of Purchase Order Report (PO's exceeding \$5,000)

Mrs. Everett made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. Mrs. Everett asked to have a legend at the bottom of the future purchase order reports that reference what the location codes mean, to which Dr. Hayek agreed. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

M. Business Services – Notices of Completion (Measure I and other sources)

Mrs. Everett made the motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Connolly. The Board and District staff discussed the line item related to the equipment to record Board meetings, the purpose of this purchase, and a request to have the District Advisory Council (DAC) meetings videotaped.

Dr. Connolly raised a Point of Order regarding a potential Brown Act violation if discussion continued on the possibility of videotaping DAC meetings without agendizing the item and providing the public with the opportunity to comment.

N. Business Services – Acceptance of Donation – Thousand Oaks High School – Schneider Electric

Mrs. Everett made the motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Gorback. The Board and District staff discussed the purpose of placing this item on the consent agenda, and background on the structure that was built and funded through a donation.

President Goldberg asked for a motion to approve the remainder of the amended Consent Agenda. Mr. Gorback made the motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Everett. **Motion carried 5-0.**

A. Human Resources - Personnel Assignment Orders

C. Instructional Services - Overnight Trip Request - Newbury Park High School - Robotics Regional Competition

D. Instructional Services - Readmit Student #1-18/19 E

E. Instructional Services - Overnight Trip Request - Thousand Oaks High School Varsity Dance Team

F. Instructional Services - Overnight Trip Request - Newbury Park High School - Robotics National Competition

H. Student Services - Contract with Assistance League Vision for the Future

K. Business Services - Approval of Ad Hoc Maintenance Agreements for 2019-2020

L. Business Services - Approval of Field Contracts for 2019-2020

O. Business Services - Approval of Agreement with Ventura Transit System, Inc.

P. Business Services - Approval of Proposal with Farley Consulting Services, LLC for Worker Compensation Claims Audit

6. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL

The Board agreed to move Information Item C to the beginning of the Information/Discussion portion of the agenda.

C. Board Discussion – Board Bylaw 9150 – Student Board Members

President Goldberg announced that one public comment card was submitted:

- Speaker 1 spoke provided an opinion regarding the conversation at the previous Board meeting between Board Trustee Everett and Student Board Trustee Scott.

The Board discussed ways to enhance this bylaw, including the need to review policies from other school districts related to student board members, clarifying student board member roles, rights and training, including resources and tools for Student Board Trustees, Student District Advisory Council members and Student Reporters, and addressing Board member responsibilities in relation to student board members.

A. Instructional Services – Approval of 2020 Summer School/Extended Year Programs

Mr. Lichtl provided information regarding this program, including dates, hours, locations, staffing allocations and the student populations that participate. The Board and District Staff discussed the fiscal impact of this program and laws related to credit recovery programs.

B. Business Services – Amendments to Independent Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee’s By-laws

President Goldberg announced that one public comment card was submitted:

- Speaker 1 spoke about areas of opportunity for better oversight of bond monies and training needed related to the bond oversight process for committee and Board members.

The Board and District staff discussed bylaw revisions, clarification on revised language, suggestions for language changes, the make-up of this committee, the District’s bond rating, and a request to have a representative from the committee available at the next Board meeting to comment on the bylaw changes. Dr. Hayek confirmed that the Committee Chair would be present at the next Board meeting to answer questions regarding the bylaws.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A. Future Board Topics / Activities


Board members did not add any items to the Future Board Topics / Activities list.

B. Adjournment

President Goldberg adjourned the Open Session at 10:06 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, and 6:00 p.m. Open Session at Conejo Valley High School in the CVUSD Board Room, 1402 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

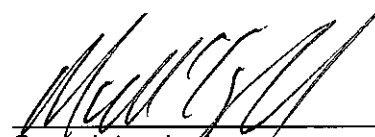
February 18, 2020

Date


Clerk

February 18, 2020

Date


Superintendent