

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
MARCH 26, 2018**

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Moment of Reflection

The Regular Meeting of the Ventura County Board of Education, Agenda 18-04, was called to order by Rachel Ulrich, Board President at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26, 2018, in the Board Room of the VCOE Conference & Educational Services Center, 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Ms. Ulrich, followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present:

Rachel Ulrich, Area 1

Marty Bates, Area 2

Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3

Dean Kunicki, Area 4

Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5

VCOE Personnel Present:

Stanley C. Mantooth, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools and Ex-Officio
Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board

Dr. Antonio Castro, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Mary Samples, Assistant Superintendent, SELPA

Leslie Comstock, Director, Hearing Conservation

Kenny Loo, Principal, Court and Community Schools

Poul Hanson, Director, Facilities

Pamela Heron, Risk Management

Cathi Nye, Principal, Special Education, Penfield

Dr. Tiffany Morse, Executive Director, Career Education

Steven Montanez, Legal Counsel for the Board

Roger Ruiz, Facilities Assistant

Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant

3. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Ulrich noted that Agenda Item C.2, Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1804, was cancelled following publication of the agenda. Mr. Kunicki moved the agenda be approved as amended. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1803
Dr. Lisagor moved the Board deny Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1803. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).
2. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1804
CANCELLED.
3. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1805
Dr. Flores moved the Board uphold Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1805. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

D. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 6:47 p.m. for the purposes of hearing Expulsion Appeal Case No. 1807E.

E. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION / PRELIMINARY

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 8:28 p.m.

1. Action on Expulsion Appeal Case No. 1807E
Dr. Lisagor moved the Board deny Expulsion Appeal Case No. 1807E. Dr. Flores seconded the motion.

Dr. Flores explained that these decisions are very hard for the Board. He is agreeing to deny the appeal, but he has serious concerns with the district's processes and methodology. He requested that the district review their process and their rehabilitation plans.

Dr. Lisagor expressed similar concerns regarding the waiver process and requested that the district review their processes and possibly slow things down.

Mr. Bates echoed these concerns.

Following discussion, the motion to deny Expulsion Appeal Case No. 1807E carried 3:2, with Mr. Bates, Dr. Lisagor, and Dr. Flores voting aye; and Mr. Kunicki and Ms. Ulrich voting nay.

2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 26, 2018
Dr. Flores moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 26, 2018 be approved. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. CCBE CORE Newsletter, February 23, 2018
2. Gateway Student Showcase RESCHEDULED

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

1. Ms. Ulrich noted the upcoming Providence graduation on April 5, 2018 and asked Board members to notify the office if they can attend.
2. Dr. Lisagor reported that he attended today's Providence graduation. He also attended the CSBA Legislative Action Day where Board members discussed fair and full funding for education and encouraged legislators to sell bonds quicker so badly needed schools can be built.
3. Mr. Kunicki reported that he attended the Science Fair and a Providence graduation.
4. Dr. Flores reported that he attended a Providence graduation earlier in the month. He also attended the Science Fair and his office provided 17 judges for the event. All were impressed with the professionalism of the leadership and the quality of the projects. The venue of CLU was exceptional.
5. Ms. Ulrich reported that next week she will be attending Assemblymember Monique Limon's Advisory Council meeting. Also, during the week of April 20th, the CCBE Fall Conference Planning Committee will be determining presenters for this year's conference.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mantooth presented the following information on the activities of the Office:

1. VCOE's 2017-18 First Period Interim Report was accepted by CDE.
2. CSBA Education Legal Alliance Annual Report.
3. Dr. Roger Rice has been selected as the Educator of the Year by the Ventura County Leadership Academy. An awards luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018. The Office was able to secure tickets to the event in exchange for a sponsorship. Would the Board be interested in purchasing an additional 4 tickets? Mr. Kunicki and Dr. Flores would like to attend. The office will purchase another four ticket block and the remaining two tickets will be used by staff.
4. Dr. Tiffany Morse is being honored for her work with English Learners and Career Education and she will be receiving the ACSA Region 13 Career Education Administrator of the Year award.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

None.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Travel Expense Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates
3. Award of Transportation Contract
4. School Accountability Report Cards

Mr. Kunicki moved Consent Items 1 4 be approved. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. School Safety

Staff presented information on current and recent safety efforts at County Operated facilities. Mr. Loo noted that school safety is a team issue at VCOE. Goal #2 on the VCOE LCAP is to facilitate a Safe and Engaging Culture at all schools. LCFF revenue is used for a Probation Officer at Gateway, random K-9 visits, bus safety training, and a full time counselor at Gateway.

Pamela Heron reported that each year schools update their school safety plans. They are constantly revising the plan as environments change. Site walks are completed by the Risk Manager and Director of Facilities. The results of these walks are then reviewed by the safety committees. Facilities are maintained in top notch condition and sites are well maintained and safe.

Procedures and Training. At Gateway and Phoenix, each morning students “check in” metal, keys and phones, but more importantly students are checked in socio-emotionally. VCOE schools support and encourage, “See something, say something” and that includes efforts to create an environment where students feel safe reporting issues. Students have multiple adults who are watching out for them, talking to them and encouraging them. Social media is updated and monitored.

Dr. Morse reported that staff is working hard on communication both on site and within the community. Different sites have different communication systems including intercoms, radios (constant upkeep), and phone trees. Sites are reviewing ways to ensure they have the ability to communicate to every classroom. Every principal is working on phone trees for contacting all teachers. This was used effectively during the Thomas Fire. Programs where students can report things anonymously are being reviewed. For those sites not easily physically secured, the options of using cameras is being investigated.

Schools participate in fire drills and lock down drills on an ongoing basis. Fire alarms and extinguishers are checked annually, and all sites have food, water and other natural disaster rations. All school site staff were trained in Run, Hide, Fight.

The wisdom of building connections with students cannot be overlooked. Positive behavioral interventions like CHAMPS, Restorative Justice, and alternatives to suspension, help ensure that all students are accountable. Pro Social Activities help students to act safely and speak out when there are unsafe situations. Individual and Group Counseling are also a part of the solution.

At each site, administrators are supported by their office manager, school psychologists, counselors, behavior intervention specialists and restorative practices teachers. There are counselors at Gateway and Phoenix as well as Ventura County Behavioral Health counselors are at Phoenix. Behavior Intervention Specialists are also located at Triton and Phoenix and many of the special education sites. SELPA also provides additional services.

Restorative Practices is a feature at Gateway. Mr. Kunicki asked if they are experiencing any backlash regarding Restorative Practices. Is it not working with the certain subset of students? Mr. Loo noted that restorative practices are a complete part of the campus. Students and staff regularly meet in community circles as well as in restorative circles. The process is similar, what happened, how are you feeling, what can you do to make it right; and it has become a usual occurrences. It has been integrated into the culture of the school.

Facilities. All classrooms and sites are lockable. Remote controls are being added to automated doors, perimeter gates are being considered at the Camarillo Airport site as well as in the installation of perimeter cameras. The Airport is especially challenging in that there are five different educational facilities operated by three different agencies in close proximity and all with different types of student clientele.

Gateway, Phoenix, CEC, ACE and Frontier recently experienced a lockdown situation. Students were very responsive. Debrief afterwards were positive. Penfield also had a lockdown the same day. Follow-up conversations with the Police regarding the need to identify and notify additional school sites. Debrief was extensive and positive.

Next steps include continuing facilities upgrades, focus on building connections with our students at all sites, provide robust counseling services, have a visible presence, and coordinated drills and practices. School site staff meet regularly and safety is a standing agenda item.

This item was presented for information only.

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Dr. Lisagor reported that he will miss the next Board meeting.
2. Dr. Flores congratulated Mr. Mantooth for his unopposed election for another term.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. School Site Safety Plans *(April)*
2. Ventura County Office of Education LCAP Preview and Update *(April-May)*
3. Joint meeting with VCCCD *(TBD)*

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: ***Wednesday, April 11, 2018*** (*Budget Study Session*)
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, April 23, 2018
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Thursday, May 17, 2018*** (*Budget Study Session*)
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Tuesday, May 29, 2018***
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

P. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Ulrich adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Approved by Board Action on 4/23/18.

*Board meetings are recorded by audio tape pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.5(b).
Copies of these audio tapes are available by request to this office at (805) 383-1900.*