

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board Meeting will be held
at the Administrative Services Center, Conejo Room
5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo
(805) 383-1900

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AGENDA NO. 07-01

Date: January 12, 2007

OPEN SESSION 8:00 a.m. ±

Times are approximate and are provided for convenience only.
Open Session items may be re-ordered.

Speaker requests will be accepted 5 minutes prior to the item coming up on the agenda.
Adjournment will be no later than 10:00 a.m. *(Unless extended by Board Action)*

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
Moment of Reflection.
2. Roll Call and Acknowledgment of Guests.
3. Approval of Agenda.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Speaker request forms will only be accepted up to 15 minutes after opening call to order.)

C. HEARINGS

None.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

- 1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 27, 2006.
This item was tabled from the December 11, 2006 meeting at the request of Mr. Valenzano.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

(Correspondence addressed specifically to the Ventura County Board of Education. Correspondence addressed to individual Board members will be delivered/mailed to them directly.)

- 1. Agenda and Minutes from Vista Real Charter High School, Inc., Governing Board Meeting, November 29, 2006, and letter announcing January 24, 2007 Board meeting. *(November 29, 2006 Explanatory materials and Minutes are available for review in the Superintendent’s Conference Room).*
- 2. Information from CSBA regarding current educational opportunities and Upcoming Board Presidents’ Workshop and Brown Act training.
- 3. VCSBA Newsletter and Invitation to the VCSBA Dinner meeting, January 30, 2007; and Brown Act Training on January 27, 2007.

G. PRESIDENT’S AND BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS

(Reports by Board members regarding their individual activities affecting the Office pursuant to Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2(a)).

- 1. Upcoming Events
January 27, 2007Brown Act Training, 8:00 - Noon
January 30, 2007VCSBA Dinner Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
March 22-25.....CCBE/PTA/CCSESA Annual Conference, Palm Springs
March 29VCSBA Dinner Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

(The Superintendent will report on the activities of the Office since the previous Board meeting.)

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

(Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff, may discuss current legislation of particular interest to the Ventura County schools.)

- 1. Letter from Assemblymember Audra Strickland announcing the deadline to introduce legislation.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Travel Expense Claim

Administration recommends the Board ratify the travel expense claim for the County Superintendent for November and December 2006.

K. PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Approval of Consortium Application for AB172, PreKindergarten and Family Literacy Program – INFORMATION / ACTION (15 minutes)

The Legislature has approved AB172 which requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Department of Education to administer prekindergarten and family literacy programs. A collaborative made up of eligible districts, community-based organizations, and the County Office of Education, has been meeting to develop a grant application that would serve eligible students. The funds from the grant must be assigned to programs located in the attendance area of elementary schools in deciles 1-3. Currently, Ventura County has 28 schools that meet these criteria. The vast majority of grant funds will be passed directly to districts or the community-based organizations that will provide direct classroom programming. The County Office will assist with coordination, monitoring, state reporting, professional development for parents and staff, and program evaluation. Administration recommends the Board approve the Ventura County Consortium Application for PreKindergarten and Family Literacy Programs.

2. Williams Lawsuit Settlement Quarterly Report to County Board of Education – INFORMATION (5 minutes)

Education Code 35186 stipulates that the Superintendent or designee shall report summarized data on the nature and resolution of all complaints pertaining to Ventura County Office of Education operated schools and programs to the Board and the County Superintendent of Schools on a quarterly basis. The report shall include the number of resolved and unresolved complaints, by general subject area; and shall be conveyed publicly, on a quarterly basis, at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The Williams Coordinator for the Ventura County Office of Education presents the quarterly report for October 1, 2006-December 31, 2006, which shows no complaints pertaining to Ventura County Office of Education operated schools and programs filed during this period.

3. Request for Allowance of Attendance because of Emergency Conditions: Form J-13A – INFORMATION / ACTION (5 minutes)
Due to the wildfires on December 4, 2006, the Ventura County Office of Education experienced school closures at three of the County Operated Special Education sites. Education Code Section 41422 (for school closures) allows school districts, county offices, and ROPs, to be held harmless from revenue loss that might result from the loss of ADA or instructional time in emergencies. Administration recommends the Board approve and sign Form J-13A, allowing VCOE to claim attendance credit for the days that the schools were closed.
4. Adoption of Resolution No. 07-01, Authorizing County Office of Education to Purchase School Supplies as a Cooperative – INFORMATION / ACTION (5 minutes)
Government Code 6500 permits public school agencies in Ventura County to purchase standard school supplies as a cooperative. The adoption of Resolution No. 07-01 is necessary in order to grant the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools or his designee the authority to enter into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to establish rules and regulations and list standard school supplies that would be purchased through such a cooperative. Administration recommends the Board adopt Resolution No. 07-01, authorizing County Superintendent of Schools or his designee to purchase school supplies as a cooperative.
5. Approval of Board Budget Consultant Agreement for 2006-07 – INFORMATION / ACTION (5 minutes)
Staff has prepared an agreement for Board Budget Consultant services, to be provided by Dr. Tom Kimberling, for the 2006-07 fiscal year. The agreement incorporates a maximum amount of \$4,000, per the Board's adopted budget. The Board may approve the contract for ongoing budget consultant services and/or seek further proposals.
6. Report on Costs to the Ventura County Office of Education relating to the Actions of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization – INFORMATION / ACTION (10 minutes)
On December 18, 2006, the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization voted to approve the petition for Camarillo Unified School District and designated the area of election to be Pleasant Valley and Somis School Districts. Subsequently, the Oxnard Union High School District took action indicating that they would appeal this decision to the State Board of Education. Per the request of Board President, staff will provide information on the potential costs to the budget. In addition, staff will address Mr. Bates' question regarding a potential conflict of interest for attorney, Jack Parham, who represents both the Ventura County Office of Education and the Oxnard Union High School District.

7. Board Legal Counsel Statement for Services – INFORMATION (5 minutes)
Board Legal Counsel's statement for representation of the Ventura County Board of Education in matters relating to School District Organization is attached for the Board's information and review.

8. Request for Board's Attorney to Create a Resolution or Draft a Letter Pertaining to the Transfer the Duties of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization to the Ventura County Board of Education – INFORMATION / ACTION (10 minutes)
On January 6, 2006, the Ventura County Board of Education submitted a letter to the State Board of Education requesting that the duties of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization be reassigned to the County Board. At the December 11, 2006 meeting, Mr. Valenzano reported on recent conversations he had with the Board's attorney on matters pertaining to this letter. The attorney has stated that the Board has the option of sending an additional letter to the State Board of Education, asking for a writ action; or the Board can file a new petition in the form of a resolution, which clarifies the conditions under which the County Board will assume the duties of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization. The Board may request that their Attorney create a resolution or ask for a writ action.

9. Approval of Letter Regarding Representative to Ventura County Committee on School District Organization – INFORMATION / ACTION (5 minutes)
At the December 11, 2006, Board meeting, Mr. Kunicki reported a concern regarding one of the newly elected members of the Ventura County Committee on School District Organization, Mr. Steven Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan has a child attending the Pleasant Valley School District and there is a concern that this could lead to the appearance of a conflict of interest. Mr. Kunicki will draft a letter for Board approval asking that Mr. Sullivan step down from the County Committee.

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

(Government Code Section 54954.2(a) states: "No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.")

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(All agenda item requests should be submitted on the form: "Request for Matter to be Placed on Agenda for Ventura County Board of Education Meeting.")

1. Report on Vista Real Charter High School
(Requested by Mr. Kunicki / February 26, 2007).
2. Report on VCOE Preparedness Plan for Pandemic Avian Flu
(Requested by Mr. Kunicki / February 26, 2007).
3. Board's Intent to Hire a Lobbyist
(Requested by Mr. Bates / TBD).
4. Collaboration Efforts with Probation and Mental Health agencies
(Requested by Mrs. Peterson / TBD).
5. Discussion of Report on Purchase Orders and Requisitions
(Requested by Mr. Bates / TBD).

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: Monday, January 22, 2007
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5189 Verdugo Way, Conejo Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: **Friday, February 2, 2007**
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5189 Verdugo Way, Conejo Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, February 26, 2007
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5189 Verdugo Way, Conejo Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

BOLD denotes modified schedule

P. ADJOURNMENT

Board meetings are recorded by audio tape pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.5(b). Auxiliary aids and services include a wide range of services and devices that promote effective communication for individuals with disabilities. If you require such assistance, please notify this office at (805) 383-1900 as soon as possible or ***at least 48 hours prior to any meeting.*** We will make every effort to give primary consideration to expressed preferences or provide equally effective means of communication to ensure equal access to Ventura County Office of Education programs and events.

The agenda is posted for minimum of 72 contiguous hours prior to Board meeting dates at the entrance to the Ventura County Office of Education, Administrative Services Center, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo. A full agenda packet, with explanatory materials, is available for public review at this location. The agenda is also posted at the following locations, and on the Internet at <http://www.vcoe.org>.

1. Conejo Valley Unified School District, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks
2. Ojai Unified School District, 414 E. Ojai Avenue, Ojai
3. Oxnard School District, 1051 S. A Street, Oxnard
4. Santa Paula School District, 201 S. Steckel Drive, Santa Paula
5. Simi Valley Unified School District, 875 E. Cochran Street, Simi Valley
6. Ventura Unified School District, 255 West Stanley Avenue, Ventura

Copies of specific explanatory materials can be requested by contacting the office at (805) 383-1900.