

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
MARCH 13, 2009**

**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 No. 09-05, was called to order by Dr. Ramon Flores, Board Vice-President, at 8:04 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2009, 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 Dr. Flores, followed by a moment of reflection.
  
2. Roll Call  
Trustees Present:  
Mary Louise Peterson, Area 1 – *Arrived at 8:10 a.m.*  
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  
Sandi Shackelford, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services  
Ken Prosser, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal & Administrative Services  
Dr. Roger Rice, Associate Superintendent, Student Services  
  
Patricia Contini, Director, Health & Early Childhood Programs  
Carrie Murphy, Coordinator, First 5 Preschool Pilot Programs  
Joe Mendoza, Director, Special Populations  
Paula Lovo, Executive Director, Teacher Support Services  
  
Tom Etchart, Director, Internal Business Services  
Benny Martinez, Budget & Accounting Manager  
Lisa Worsley, Senior Accountant  
Peggy White, Accountant  
  
Nancy Manley, Executive Assistant to the County Superintendent

3. Approval of Agenda  
Mr. Bates moved the agenda be approved. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0. Mrs. Peterson had not arrived.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**C. HEARINGS**

None.

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**E. PRELIMINARY**

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 23, 2009.  
Dr. Lisagor moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 23, 2009, be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and it carried 3:0:1. Mr. Bates abstained.

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. E-mail correspondence between Mr. Bates and Mr. Mantooth (cc'd to all Board members), dated February 24, 26 and 27, 2009. Subject: Facilitator for "planning session."
2. E-mail correspondence between Dr. Lisagor and Mrs. Peterson (cc'd to all Board members), dated March 2 and 4, 2009. Subject: Advocacy Opportunity in DC.
3. Letter from Paul Minney, Law Offices of Spector, Middleton, Young & Minney, dated February 27, 2009. Regarding: Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary School Response to CVUSD Preliminary Proposition 39 Offer.

**G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

1. Mr. Kunicki reported that past Board Legal Counsel, John Hayashida, is receiving hospice care for advancing cancer.
2. Dr. Flores reported that he attended a Rio School District event acknowledging student success. He also attended the Brown Act Training and a Leadership Conference of the National Association of Latino Leaders. It was very insightful and he received information on the federal stimulus package.

3. Mr. Mantooth reminded Board members of the March 30, 2009 VCSBA Dinner Meeting. Dr. Lisagor and Dr. Flores indicated that they will be attending.

#### **H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

1. Mr. Mantooth reported that he has received an invitation for Board Members to visit the Ventura County School of Arts and Education. Dr. Lisagor, Dr. Flores, Mr. Bates, and Mr. Kunicki expressed a desire to attend. The office will send out a tentative date.

#### **I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None.

#### **J. CONSENT/ACTION**

1. Certification of Signatures  
Mr. Bates moved the Board approve Consent Item 1. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 5:0. Board members signed the document.

#### **K. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

#### **L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION**

1. Budget Study Session  
Mr. Prosser reported that the information presented in the budget documents reflect the Governor's proposed budget. Dr. Kimberling's analysis is included in the explanatory materials.

The funds presented today, Fund 013, 017 and 019 are some of the most active funds, with many programs contained within each. Fund 013 is comprised almost exclusively of restricted funds. The uses of the funds, within each program, are targeted and restricted. Fund 017 is comprised of designated funds. The funds generally come from a source that stipulates how the funds can be used; however, these are not State mandated uses and therefore do not have an actual legal restriction on the monies.

The negative funding shown in Fund 013 is a direct result of the new State budget. Many programs have been reduced by 15% for 2008-09 and 4.9% for 2009-10. Many of these programs will be using carryover balances to fund their activities for this year and next. Over the course of these two years, the fund balances to keep these programs operating will be depleted.

Fund 013 (Special Projects Restricted)

Patricia Contini, Director, Health and Early Childhood Programs, addressed the Board.

These programs provide a means to closing the achievement gap in a safe secure and healthy learning environment through:

- Quality and standards-based professional development
- Opportunities for children to develop social skills, competency, and efficacy in an environment that values children, the love of learning, and academic achievement
- Site visitations, observation, and consultation by highly skilled professionals
- Facilitation and collaboration with diverse partners to promote high expectations and quality program delivery.

Carrie Murphy, Coordinator, First 5 Preschool Pilot Programs, addressed the Board.

The goal of the Pre-K program is to provide improved access to high-quality Pre-Kindergarten through:

- Creating new preschool spaces
- Professional development
- Curriculum support
- On-going program review/assessment
- Career advising
- Stipends for higher education.

Preschool for All Pilot project in Hueneme has a goal of providing high quality preschool to 70% of preschoolers in the Hueneme area. Our Office supports this effort through quality improvement plans, one-to-one coaching, quality educators, etc.

Pre-Kindergarten and Family Literacy Program Grant. The grant funds a preschool coach and 174 preschool spaces spread throughout five school districts. The grant funds come to the County Office and then to the contracted agencies.

The California Preschool Instructional Network provides professional development and technical assistance to preschool teachers and administrators through the California Department of Education.

CARES / AB212 Stipends support the child care workforce in pursuing their AA and BA degrees. In addition it provides for a career advisor.

The Child Care Planning Council is the nexus point of information in the County. Appointments to the CCPC are made by the County Superintendent and the Board of Supervisors. The two tasks of the CCPC are to develop a county-wide child care needs assessment and strategic plans for quality childcare.

Ms. Shackelford reported that five years ago none of these funds and programs were in existence. Our County Office is seen as one of the leaders in preschool programs. She thanked Mrs. Contini and Mrs. Murphy for their efforts.

The First 5 Commission funds the Preschool for All and the CARES program. The efforts are to build capacity and staffing. The Preschool for All funding includes \$1 million in federal funding. There may be additional funding in the Federal Stimulus package as well.

Dr. Paula Lovo, Executive Director, Teacher Support Services addressed the Board.

The primary mission of Teacher Support Services (TSS) is to support local employers of teachers in the recruitment, signing and retention of highly qualified teachers. Our Office develops programs to support the needs of the local districts in this effort.

Dr. Lovo reviewed the various programs offered by TSS to train and retain new teachers and administrators. TSS offers teacher examination preparation for prospective and current teachers; the Paraprofessional Teacher Training Program which provides tuition support to prospective teachers; provides Supplemental Education Services to students from high poverty schools; developed the University Teaching Internship Program; and houses the largest number of credential candidates in Ventura County with its BTSA/Induction and Designated Subjects Credential Programs.

The California Commission on Teacher Credentials is moving more towards employer based authorizations. The Bilingual Teacher Training Program is offered at our Office. Other County Offices utilize our offices' materials at a cost basis. Our Office now offers the Verification Process for Special Settings (VPSS) which allows teachers in secondary special education, and court and community schools to teach subject areas beyond their initial authorization. These materials are also available for Small Rural School Districts, such as those in Modoc County. The Office currently offers VPSS in English and Math; Social Science and Science being available this year. These materials are marketed across the State.

TSS also supports the Personnel Management Assistance Teams which assists districts in placing teachers in equitable assignments between high and low poverty schools. This connects California's accountability initiatives to local personnel management systems. Our office provides technical assistance to the other 5 regional county offices. As the PMAT Regional Lead, we provide technical assistance to over 80 districts from Ventura County to San Joaquin County.

Joe Mendoza, Director, Special Student Populations, addressed the Board.

The largest program in Special Populations is Migrant Education. In addition, the department manages nine other grants. Mr. Mendoza noted that without the efforts of the Office, the students served by the programs are not destined for success. Migrant students have a 62% drop out rate. Teen parents, homeless, foster children – these are the students that the Office programs serve. Our programs deal directly with the parents and students and families.

Migrant serves 13 districts, with 13,000 students. These programs may receive additional funds via the Economic Stimulus package for Title I.

Mr. Mendoza noted that there is no centralized data collected for foster or homeless students. Our Office is hoping to create a databank so these students can be tracked more closely. Probation and Social Services could also provide data.

Mr. Prosser provided an overview of all funds. He noted that the 15% cut for this year and the 4.9% cut for next year, are on a tiered basis. State programs will receive these reductions; Federal program funds are protected. Many of the funds in Fund 013 are experiencing the 15% reduction. Federal Stimulus funds will not be reflected in the budgets until these funds actually reach our office.

Dr. Kimberling has reviewed the budgets presented and his memo was included in the explanatory materials. Dr. Kimberling questioned what staff layoffs are anticipated. Mr. Prosser noted that the Office is continuing to review staffing levels in all programs. No firm decisions have been made. The Office should have a clearer picture of staffing needs in May. At this time, 1.0 FTE Content Specialist will be cut. This staff member provided site visitations for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. This position will not be funded next year. Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties understand this discontinuation of staff.

Mr. Mantooh stated that if staff were to be released, in this economy, they are not likely to find another position. For that reason, the Office is trying not to release staff. There are limited resources that will assist the Office in getting through this very rough period in time, rather than doing an en-masse layoff. The Office will

continue to work to maintain the level of services provided to our client school districts. The districts really need these services at this time, and the Office is trying to maintain the service levels currently provided. Leadership Team members will be receiving notification of a freeze on any new hiring, and additional austerity measures.

**M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

None.

**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Discussion of School District of Choice and Review of Board Policy on Interdistrict Attendance Appeals (3/23/09).
2. Continuation of Goal Setting Discussion (TBD).  
Mr. Mantooth reported that the Board will likely hear an Expulsion Appeal on March 23, 2009. The Board's Legal Counsel will be in attendance. If the Expulsion Appeal is not heard on this date, then it is anticipated that the Board will continue with their Goal Setting discussion. The agenda for March 23, 2009, will reflect the Goal Setting discussion as a tentative item, time permitting.

**O. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Date: Monday, March 23, 2009  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: **Thursday, April 9, 2009 (*Budget Study Session*)**  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, April 27, 2009  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

***Approved by Board Action on 3/26/09.***

*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.*