

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
JUNE 22, 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. 09-11, was called to order by Mrs. Mary Louise Peterson, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 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 Mrs. Peterson, followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call
Trustees Present:
Mary Louise Peterson, Area 1
Marty Bates, Area 2
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3
Dean Kunicki, Area 4 - *Absent*
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
Tom Etchart, Director, Internal Business Services
Benny Martinez, Budget & Accounting Manager
Peggy White, Accountant

Nancy Manley, Executive Assistant to the County Superintendent

3. Approval of Agenda
Mr. Bates moved the agenda be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

None.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 8, 2009.
Tabled to a future meeting.
2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 26, 2009.
Tabled to a future meeting.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Ventura County Office of Education response to 2008-09 Grand Jury Report.

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

1. Mrs. Peterson reported that the audio recordings of the Board meetings are now posted to the website. Mrs. Peterson asked that the recordings be posted prior to the approval of the minutes. The Office will review Board Policy to insure this timing follows adopted protocol.
2. Mrs. Peterson reported that she has established an Ad Hoc subcommittee to research and bring back a recommendation for possible new Legal Counsel who would represent both the Board and the County Superintendent. Education Code 35041.5 states that legal counsel is to represent both the County Board and the County Superintendent with certain exceptions. The Board's current legal counsel was hired to exclusively represent the Board, but will be invited to take part in the RFP process.

Mr. Bates noted that in the past, there has been controversy between the Superintendent and the Board. Having the same legal counsel may not serve either agency properly. In addition, the legal counsel for the County Superintendent may have to represent the Office in areas that do not involve the Board.
3. Dr. Flores reported that he had the opportunity to attend various Office graduations including two Providence graduations, Phoenix, Boswell, ROP, and Gateway. In addition, he gave the keynote address at the Vista Real Charter High School graduation.

4. Mrs. Peterson reported that she also attended a couple of the graduations at Providence graduations. She also attended the Gateway graduation and was pleased that almost every student was awarded a scholarship.
5. Dr. Lisagor reported that he attended the Boswell graduation which was very amazing. He also reported that as the CSBA County Delegate, he will be attending the CSBA local governance summit on State Government and Fiscal Reform in Sacramento in July.
6. Mr. Bates reported that he was unable to attend VCOE graduation events due to personal family graduation commitments.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mantooth distributed the following information relative to the activities of the Office:

1. Letter from CDE confirming VCOE's positive Second Interim report.
2. Update on ACE (Architecture, Construction and Engineering) Charter High School which was recently approved by the Oxnard Union High School District. The main campus will be located at the VCOE airport facility, opening in September 2010. The Office has entered into discussions with Naval Base Ventura County and the Trade Unions regarding donations of labor and/or materials to outfit this facility.
3. Strong American Schools publication excerpts provided by Mr. Kunicki.
4. Updated Ventura County Office of Education Brochure on County Office of Education services. This is a complement to the informational DVD. Additional copies can be requested through the Office.
5. Applications for two CSBA Golden Bell Awards have been submitted for the Response to Intervention and the Supplemental Educational Services Programs.
6. Flag Pins, made by Boswell students, are available for purchase for \$1.00 each.

Dr. Flores requested that he be contacted as the curriculum is being developed for ACE. His office currently develops multiple trades curriculums for seven schools.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

None.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Travel Expense Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates
3. 2009-10 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Programs, Part I

Mr. Bates moved the Board approve Consent Items 1, 2 and 3. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

K. PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Public Hearing and Approval of the 2009-10 County Schools Service Fund Budget Including the Review of the Criteria and Standards
 - a. Mrs. Peterson opened the PUBLIC HEARING on the 2009-10 County Schools Service Fund Budget and the receipt of flexible California State Categorical Program Funding at 6:22 p.m. Hearing no Public Comments, Mrs. Peterson closed the Public Hearing at 6:23 p.m.
 - b. Adoption of the 2009-10 County Schools Service Fund Budget including the receipt of flexible California State Categorical Program Funding and the review of the Criteria and Standards for the Ventura County Schools Service Fund.

Mr. Prosser noted that this is the final step in the budget process. The Office does plan to utilize some of the allowed flexibility to support our student programs which were hard hit by the budgetary reductions. The Office does not participate in all 39 Categorical Programs where flexibility is provided. It is the Office's intention to utilize carryover monies or additional monies that can be identified to support selected program deductions.

Mr. Bates moved the Board adopt the 2009-10 County Schools Service Fund Budget including the receipt of flexible California State Categorical Program Funding and the review of the Criteria and Standards for the Ventura County Schools Service Fund. In addition, Mr. Bates moved that as flexible funds are utilized, that a report be brought back to the Board. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

2. Response to Ventura County 2008-2009 Grand Jury Report
Mrs. Peterson noted that the Ventura County Grand Jury sent its annual report titled "School District Administration: Is the Cost Too High?" to the County Board of Education President. Penal Code 933(c) requires that the Board respond to the report's recommendations within 60 days of submittal of this report.

Mr. Bates stated that staff should respond in a manner that explains the budgetary system of the County Office of Education. The response should then be approved by each Board member.

Dr. Lisagor stated that the Office's response was appropriate and the Board has even less to do with the process. The only issue the Board could address is Recommendation 2, stating that the County Office's purpose is to support and minimize expense to the local school districts. He does not feel it is appropriate for the Board to respond to the 1st question. These decisions should be made by the local communities.

Dr. Flores questioned the validity of the source of the numbers. He agreed with Mr. Bates' suggestion that staff draft a response.

Mrs. Peterson suggested that there be one paragraph that states the role of the County Board, and that the County Board doesn't have much to do with the process. The Board does not have oversight over how the local school districts are formed. Then add a paragraph on the services provided by the Office.

Mr. Mantooh clarified that the Office will respond to Recommendation 1 that this is not within the purview of the County Board and is a matter for local communities; and Recommendation 2, respond that the Ventura County Office of Education does currently provide a number of consolidated services and will continue to do so as the future unfolds.

Dr. Lisagor moved that the Office draft a letter consistent with the consensus reached during discussion of recommendations R1 and R2. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

3. Ventura County Plan for Expelled Pupils, Triennial Update, June 2009
Education Code Section 48926 provides that each County Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with district superintendents in the county, shall submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction a triennial update to the county plan first developed in 1997. The plan delineates the existing school district and county office educational alternatives available to expelled pupils in Ventura County. Mr. Bates moved the Board adopt the Triennial Update to the Ventura County Plan for Expelled Pupils as submitted. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

4. Post Retirement Benefits, Updated Report of Assets and Unfunded Liability
Mr. Prosser explained that the Ventura County Office of Education provides lifetime healthcare benefits to a closed group of retirees. Post retirement benefits were offered until 1995. There are currently 52 people receiving these benefits. It is anticipated that it will cost approximately \$4 million to totally fund these benefits for the length of the program. The Office has set aside approximately \$3.8 million in a special reserve fund for these benefits. The Post Retirement Benefits, Updated Report of Assets and Unfunded Liability was provided for the Board's information.

5. Approval of Resolution No. 09-02, District Representative for Facilities Applications
Mr. Mantooth explained that the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) requires that the representative designated to sign School Facilities Program applications be authorized by the Governing Board. At this time, the representative needs to be updated to Mr. Ken Prosser, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal and Administrative Services, and Mr. Poul Hanson, Director, Facilities, as an alternate. Dr. Lisagor moved that Board approve Resolution 09-02, Representative for Facilities Applications. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

6. Resolution No. 09-03 in Support of AB8, Brownley
Mrs. Peterson presented Resolution No. 09-03, in support of Assembly Bill 8 (Brownley). This bill would add Section 41054 to the Education Code, relating to education finance. This bill would require the Director of Finance and the Legislative Analyst to convene a working group to make findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on or before December 1, 2010, regarding restructuring California's school finance system. The bill would require those findings and recommendations to include, among other things, alternative structures for funding public schools, the policy and fiscal implications of the alternative funding structure or structures, and an evaluation mechanism to facilitate continuous improvement, maximum transparency, and accountability of the funding structures.

Dr. Flores moved the Board approve Resolution No. 09-03 in support of AB8, Brownley. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion for discussion purposes. After further discussion, Dr. Flores withdrew his motion, with the request that this item be brought forward, with more information, as the bill continues in the amendment process. Dr. Lisagor withdrew his second.

Mrs. Peterson moved that this agenda item be tabled until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0. The text of the bill will be included in the explanatory materials.

Mr. Mantooth noted that all legislation can be viewed at the following website: www.leginfo.ca.gov.

7. Preparation for June 27th Special Meeting with Local School District Governing Board Representatives

The Board discussed the upcoming meeting with local school district Governing Board representatives. Mrs. Peterson reminded Board members that a Special Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 27th. Mr. Parham will be asked to facilitate the meeting. Mr. Bates noted that the purpose of this meeting is to hear information from the local school districts as to what they would want this Board to do for them. Mr. Mantooth will resend the invitation letter to the attendees via e-mail. Dr. Lisagor apologized that he will be unable to attend this meeting.

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Development of Board Mission Statement (TBD).
2. Resolution No. 09-03 in Support of AB8, Brownley_(July 10, 2009).

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: *Saturday, June 27, 2009*
Time: *9:00 – 11:00 a.m.*
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: SPECIAL Meeting of the Board

Date: Friday, July 10, 2009
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, July 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 7:27 p.m.

Approved as amended by Board Action on 7/10/09.

*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.*