

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
June 30, 2008**

**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. 08-15, was called to order by Mr. Chris Valenzano, Board President, at 6:07 p.m. on Monday, June 30, 2008, 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 Mr. Valenzano, followed by a moment of reflection.
  
2. Roll Call  
Trustees Present:  
Mary Louise Peterson, Area 1  
Marty Bates, Area 2  
Chris Valenzano, Area 3  
Dean Kunicki, Area 4  
Lee Elder, Provisional Appointee, Area 5 - *Absent*  
  
VCOE Personnel Present:  
Stan Mantooth, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Sandra Shackelford, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services  
Nancy Manley, Executive Assistant to the County Superintendent
  
3. Approval of Agenda  
Mr. Bates moved the agenda be approved. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. *Val Rains, Camarillo resident*  
Mrs. Rains publicly thanked Dr. Weis for his service to Ventura County.
  
2. *Mrs. Lindgren, Camarillo resident*  
Mrs. Lindgren acknowledged Dr. Weis for his service to the children of Ventura County. Mrs. Lindgren also addressed Agenda Item L.5, speaking in support of membership with CSBA, CCBE and CSBA Legal Alliance.

3. *Mr. Carl Olson, Woodland Hills resident*  
Mr. Olson distributed a letter on textbook errors and hiring of illegal aliens.
4. *Mr. Raymond Cruz, Simi Valley resident*  
Mr. Cruz addressed Agenda Item L.6, and encouraged the Board to renew the contracts with lobbyists.
5. *Kimble Ouerbacker, Ventura resident*  
Mr. Ouerbacker addressed Agenda Item L.6, and encouraged the Board to renew the contracts with lobbyists.

## C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 476.  
Mr. & Mrs. Johnson and their student were in attendance. Frida Goldstein-Friend, Director, Special Education and Student Support Services, Santa Paula Elementary School District, was in attendance. Mrs. Peterson moved the Board deny Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 476. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 3:1, with Mr. Kunicki voting nay.
2. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 477.  
Mr. Kunicki moved to table this item to July 9, 2008. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.
3. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 479.  
Mr. & Mrs. Bandejas were in attendance. Dr. Linda Calvin, Associate Director, Pupil Services, Conejo Valley Unified School District, and Cliff Morris, Oak Park Unified School District, were in attendance.

Mrs. Peterson moved the Board uphold Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 479; based on a severe and demonstrated hardship to parents. Mr. Kunicki seconded the motion.

After further discussion, Mr. Valenzano called for the question, and the call for the question passed upon a 3:1 vote, with Mr. Bates voting nay.

Mrs. Peterson moved the motion be amended to release the student for one year. Mr. Valenzano seconded the amendment for discussion purposes.

After further discussion, Mr. Bates moved to call for the question. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. The call for the question failed upon a 2:2 vote, with Mr. Bates and Mrs. Peterson voting aye, and Mr. Valenzano and Mr. Kunicki voting nay.

Mr. Kunicki moved the motion be amended, to release the student with no time limit. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Valenzano called for the vote on the original motion, that the Board uphold Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 479; based on a severe and demonstrated hardship to parents. The motion carried 4:0.

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**E. PRELIMINARY**

1. Second Reading and Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of May 21, 2008.  
Mr. Valenzano moved the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 21, 2008 be approved. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.
2. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 11, 2008.  
Mr. Valenzano requested the following change on page 8 of 11: "Every applicant who meets the minimum qualifications, *as set by the Board*, will have their name released."

Mr. Kunicki moved the Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 11, 2008 be approved as amended. Mr. Valenzano seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Report of Minute Order regarding Ventura County Board of Education's Motion to Quash Discovery and Request for Sanctions.

Mr. Kunicki reported that due to the amount that was awarded in this case, this award will be reported to the State Bar Association that there were sanctions awarded against the attorneys for Fillmore Unified School District.

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

1. Mr. Valenzano reported that he attended the Gateway Graduation in the Conference Center. He was happy to see the facility used for this event.
2. Mr. Mantooth noted that Mileage Expense Claim forms were sent to all Board members with their Board packet, and asked that the forms be signed and submitted tonight to close out the fiscal year.

**H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

None.

**I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None.

**J. CONSENT/ACTION**

1. Temporary Certificates
2. 2008-09 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Programs, Part I

Mr. Bates moved the Board approve Consent Items 1 & 2. Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

**K. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Governor's May Revise Proposals

Mr. Mantooth provided a powerpoint presentation on the Governor's May Revise proposals. A pocket guide to the budget was distributed at the last meeting.

**Prop 98 and the Projected County Office COLAs / Deficit Factors:**

Mr. Mantooth reported that the suspension of Prop 98 is no longer being proposed by the Governor. The projected COLA is now 5.66%, offset by a deficit factor of 5.357%, with a net effect of 0% COLA. Other Programs / Categoricals may still experience a reduction of 6.5%, with the exception that Special Education funding was restored. A \$1.4 billion apportionment deferral from July to September remains. In addition, the Department of Finance has proposed a \$3 billion categorical apportionment deferral from January 2009 to March 2009. The State will save \$60 million in borrowing costs by doing this, but school districts will lose interest earnings. Federal programs also continue to face reductions.

**Local Good News:**

Approximately \$425,000 in savings have been realized due to a decrease in health benefits premiums; decrease in workers compensation contributions; additional reductions in ROP programs; and restoration of Special Education funding, which resulted in \$4.3 million being provided directly to local school districts.

*Mr. Kunicki moved the time limit for this agenda item be extended by five minutes. Mr. Valenzano seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.*

**Other Issues:**

Other budgetary issues include a State Lottery proposal to borrow against future profits, creation of a revenue stabilization fund, sales tax safety net, local budget reserves and categorical flexibility, routine restricted maintenance accounts, deferred maintenance match flexibility, and State cash flow.

Mr. Kunicki asked about potential fuel cost increases. Mr. Mantooth noted that VCOE has a master contract for special education transportation with Durham Transportation. The contract includes no provision for Durham to increase their rates due to the increased cost of fuel.

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

1. Public Hearing and Approval of the 2008-09 County Schools Service Fund Budget Including the Review of the Criteria and Standards
  - a. Mr. Valenzano opened the PUBLIC HEARING on the 2008-09 County Schools Service Fund Budget at 7:53 p.m. Hearing no public comments, Mr. Valenzano closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 7:54 p.m.
  - b. Adoption of the 2008-09 County Schools Service Fund Budget including the review of the Criteria and Standards for the Ventura County Schools Service Fund.

Mr. Valenzano moved the Board adopt the 2008-09 County Schools Service Fund Budget including the review of the Criteria and Standards for the Ventura County Schools Service Fund. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

2. Approval of New Regional Occupational Program Course: Emergency First Responder

Ms. McGinnis, Principal, ROP, reported that the Regional Occupational Program is requesting Board approval for a new course: Emergency First Responder. This course can articulate with the Community College EMT program. Mr. Bates moved the Board approve the Regional Occupational Program Course: Emergency First Responder. Mr. Kunicki seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

Mr. Kunicki requested that a copy of these materials be sent to Capitol Venture, LLC.

3. Further Discussion of the Process to be Used to Appoint a County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Glen Thomas, Consultant to the Board, led a discussion of the process to be used to appoint a County Superintendent of Schools, including: approval of selection criteria and position brochure; review background and preparation for salary setting process; and finalize the timeline for selection, including specific meeting dates and times.

### **Adoption of Criteria:**

Dr. Thomas reviewed the suggested criteria which will be used to assist in screening the applications. The application packet will include a letter of interest, the completed application, and letters of reference.

The County Board could petition the State Board of Education to grant a waiver of the administrative services credential, although waivers are uncommon.

The Board reviewed the suggested criteria and requested the following modifications:

**Preferred Education and Experience:**

Change “Demonstrated knowledge and leadership skills in one or more of the following areas” to *Specialized knowledge and leadership skills in one or more of the following areas, with a basic understanding of the remaining areas.*

**Personal and Professional Profile:**

Add *innovative* to “Is visionary, collaborative, and energetic”

Is ~~service minded~~, able to work collaboratively with local school districts to ensure that every student ...

Delete, “Is collaborative and will place high priority on working closely with significant partners in the community.” This is covered in other bullets.

Mr. Valenzano suggested that the interview questions also highlight a thorough, working knowledge of Education Code and Roberts Rules. He stated that candidates should have classroom teaching experience, and be knowledgeable in school finance. Suggested interview questions will be provided and discussed at the July 9, 2008 meeting.

***Mr. Valenzano moved the Board extend the meeting for 60 minutes.  
Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.***

Mr. Valenzano moved the Board approve the criteria as modified, and allow Dr. Thomas to develop the final version of the brochure making adjustments as needed. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.

Dr. Thomas will e-mail a final version of the brochure to Board members. The final version of the brochure will be posted on the VCOE website, and CCSESA can be asked to mail the brochure to all County Offices of Education. Board members should contact Dr. Thomas if they have any additional input on the brochure.

Mr. Kunicki led a discussion of the possibly of placing an advertisement in the Wall Street Journal. A one time advertisement in the Wall Street Journal, on a Saturday, would cost \$625. This also includes a one week posting of the Journal online. Dr. Thomas noted that there is going to be broad coverage of the education community.

Mr. Kunicki moved the Board expend the funds necessary to purchase a one-day advertisement in the Wall Street Journal, on a Saturday. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 3:1, with Mrs. Peterson voting nay.

Dr. Thomas distributed a copy of the Ed-Cal advertisement that will be submitted to Ed-Cal and will run next week, and is available on Ed-Join at [www.edjoin.org](http://www.edjoin.org). The advertisement will be e-mailed to Board members. There will be extensive advertising done online. Applicants will apply electronically on Ed-Join. This is a secure site, and subcommittee members will have access to the applications.

The Board discussed the confidentiality of applications. Mr. Valenzano noted that there is an opinion from the District Attorney's Office that applications may not be public information. Names are made public, but applications possibly not.

**Timeline:**

The Board reviewed the previously approved timeline and determined actual meeting times.

August 11, 2008	9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
August 15, 2008	9:00 a.m.
August 16, 2008	8:00 a.m.
August 18, 2008	TBD

**Salary:**

Dr. Thomas noted that Ventura County is the largest of the Class III Counties, and is almost a Class II County. Dr. Thomas asked the Board to disregard the information on the five smallest Class II Counties and salaries, as there are errors. He will send a corrected version.

Mr. Bates noted that the Board needs to determine a salary range and asked that each Board member review the provided information carefully. The final salary will need to be negotiated with the finalist.

4. 2008-09 School Year Calendars for VCOE operated Court & Community Schools, Regional Occupational Program and Special Education Program  
Ventura County Office of Education operated Special Education Program, Regional Occupational Program, and Court & Community Schools are housed in a variety of locations throughout the county. Due to testing, graduation, professional development, and numerous vacation schedules throughout the county, staff have made every effort to align start and stop dates as close to their home district as possible. Mr. Valenzano moved the Board approve the 2008-09 School Year Calendars for the Ventura County Office of Education operated Court & Community Schools, Regional Occupational Program, and Special Education Program. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0. In the future, this item will be presented on the Consent Calendar.

5. Review of Board Expenditures on Memberships in CSBA, CCBE and CSBA Legal Alliance

Mr. Valenzano tabled this item to July 28, 2008.

6. Contract with Capitol Venture, LLC, and Anchor Consulting, LLC

*Chris Collier, Ventura resident, spoke in support of renewing these contracts.*

Mr. Kunicki reported on recent activities of the subcommittee to work with the lobbyists, and read the following two reports into the record:

Anchor Consulting, LLC, "Government Relations Summary," dated June 25, 2008.

Capitol Venture, LLC, "Update on Current ROCP/CTE Legislative and Funding Programs," dated June 22, 2008.

***Mr. Valenzano moved that the meeting be extended to 10:30 p.m., and this item to 10:25 p.m. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0.***

Mr. Kunicki further reported that the subcommittee will be touring the VCOE ROP facilities on July 11<sup>th</sup> with the consultants and business representatives. Board members can contact the lobbyists with questions. The subcommittee is pleased with the process to date and the long-term need to establish relationships in order to get anything accomplished. They are confident that within the next 6 – 8 months, the Board will begin to see fruits from the lobbyists' efforts.

Mr. Bates moved the Board renew the contracts with Anchor Consulting, LLC, and with Capitol Venture, LLC. Mr. Kunicki seconded the motion.

Mr. Kunicki reported that Anchor Consulting, LLC, has agreed to reduce their fees by 10% for the next year. He is in conversations with the Sacramento lobbyists as well.

After further discussion, Mr. Valenzano called for a vote on the following motion: that the Board extend the agreements with Capitol Venture, LLC., and Anchor Consulting, LLC, for one additional year, with Anchor Consulting, LLC at a rate reduction of 10%; and with Capitol Venture, LLC at a reduced rate, to be determined. The motion passed 3:1, with Mrs. Peterson voting nay.

7. Board Legal Counsel Statement for Services

The May 2008 statements for services, provided by Board Legal Counsel, Henry Kraft, pertaining to general services requested, Expulsion Appeal Case 08-01, and Exiting Litigation, Governing Board of Fillmore USD v Ventura County Board of Ed., were presented for the Board's information and review.

**M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

1. Mr. Valenzano stated that the Subcommittees pertaining to lobbyists will remain the same.

**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Posting of Board Policies and other Board information on website (Requested by Mr. Valenzano, TBD).
2. Board-Hosted Event for Countywide Business Owners to Highlight VCOE Regional Occupational Program, to be held at the Conference Center (Requested by Mr. Kunicki, TBD).
3. Continued Review of Board Policy Series 9000, including Revisions to Board Policy Nos. 9130 and 9271 (requested by Mrs. Peterson on 4/28/08); Revisions to Board Policy 9314 (requested by Mr. Valenzano on 4/28/08).
4. District of Choice Discussion.

**O. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Mr. Valenzano reported that he will not attend the July 9 or July 28, 2008 meetings.

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2008  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, July 28, 2008  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Monday, August 11, 2008***  
Time: 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Special Meeting of the Board

Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2008  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Friday, August 15, 2008***  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Special Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Saturday, August 16, 2008***  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Special Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Monday, August 18, 2008 (Could Continue to Aug 19, 20)***  
Time: TBD  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Special Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, August 25, 2008  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

***Bold, Italics Denotes Modified Schedule***

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

***Approved by Board Action on 7/28/08.***

*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.*