

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
AUGUST 13, 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. 08-19, was called to order by Mr. Chris Valenzano, Board President, at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 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, Area 5  
  
VCOE Personnel Present:  
Stan Mantooth, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Dr. Cary Dritz, Associate Superintendent, Student Services  
Sandra Shackelford, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services  
Nancy Manley, Executive Assistant to the County Superintendent
  
3. Approval of Agenda  
Mr. Kunicki moved the agenda be approved. Mr. Elder seconded the motion, and it carried 5:0.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**C. HEARINGS**

None.

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**E. PRELIMINARY**

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 28, 2008.

Mr. Valenzano requested the following change to Agenda Item G.1, 4<sup>th</sup> line: *The letter indicated that the Board President is responsible for filing an argument by July 30, 2008; and the letter was received at the Board meeting that day.*

Mr. Valenzano requested the following change to Agenda Item L.2, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph: Add, *“The Board expressed numerous concerns related to the activity of, and communication from, CSBA and CCBE and CSBA Legal Alliance, and the Board also their expressed concern regarding ...”*

Mrs. Peterson requested that the words *Provisional Appointee* be removed from the designation of Trustee Area 5.

Mr. Elder moved the Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 28, 2008 be approved as amended. Mr. Kunicki seconded the motion, and it carried 5:0.

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. E-mail notification from Vista Real Charter High School of upcoming Board meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.
2. July 1, 2008 letter to Mr. Valenzano from Mr. Prosser, VCOE School Business and Advisory Services, pertaining to proposed Camarillo Unification measure and November 4, 2008 ballot arguments. Also included are the Impartial Analysis prepared by County Counsel; Statement of Official Information and Statistics prepared by VCOE; and Arguments “for” and “against” the recommendation.

Mr. Valenzano noted that he submitted the argument in favor of Measure U, as required by Education Code. Mr. Mantooth distributed copies of rebuttals to the arguments that were filed with Elections.

3. July 28, 2008 letter from Parker & Covert, LLP, regarding payment of sanctions award. A check was issued to VCOE in the amount of \$1500.
4. August 1, 2008 letter from CSBA requesting nominations for Directors-at-Large, Asian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic.

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

1. Upcoming Events  
December 3 – 6, 2008. .... CSBA Annual Conference, San Diego

Mr. Mantooth noted that the CSBA Annual Conference Guide was mailed to Board members in late July. The CSBA Housing Bureau will begin accepting housing reservations on Wednesday, August 20, 2008. This year’s headquarter hotel, the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, will have limited rooms available for early reservation. Reservations are non-refundable. Board members should contact the Office by August 18, 2008 if they plan to attend the CSBA Annual Conference.

2. Mr. Elder reported that he has heard concerns from various teachers regarding textbook adoptions. Some textbooks are not aligning with the State standards. He requested that the Board draft a letter to the State Board of Education requesting that the instructional materials match the State adopted standards that students are required to achieve. This will be a future agenda item.

**H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

None.

**I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None.

**J. CONSENT/ACTION**

None.

**K. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION**

1. Review of Social Science Textbooks for Gateway, Providence and Phoenix Schools

Dr. Dritz reported that the high school programs at Gateway, Providence and Phoenix Schools have selected their social sciences textbooks and are presented to the Board for review and future adoption. The textbooks were recommended by a committee of teachers from Providence, Gateway, Phoenix and Triton Schools and all are published by Pearson-Prentice Hall. High School textbooks are not state approved, but are adopted by a Board of Education. The titles presented for adoption are:

World History – The Modern World  
United States History – Modern America  
Magruder’s American Government  
Economics – Principles in Action

Copies of the textbooks and recommended support materials are available for review in the Ventura County Office of Education, Administrative Services Center, Upstairs Lobby, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, beginning August 13, 2008, and continuing through the anticipated adoption date of September 22, 2008. Copies of the recommended textbooks were given to each Board member. The Board and general public are encouraged to view these items. This item was presented for information only.

2. Request to Approve a Student Waiver for the Math Portion of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

Dr. Dritz reported that Student No. 5060324, a senior special education student attending Phoenix School, took and passed the math portion of the CAHSEE with modifications. Education Code Section 60851(c) establishes a waiver process for students who take one or both parts of the CAHSEE with a modification and have received the equivalent of a passing score. If a student takes one or both parts of the CAHSEE with an accommodation and earns a score of 350 or higher, then the student has passed that part of the exam. As long as all other graduation requirements have been met, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma. Student No. 5060324 has met the all requirements previously listed, as well as meeting the graduation requirements of the State of California and the Ventura County Office of Education. Mr. Valenzano moved the Board approve a student waiver for the Math portion of the CAHSEE for Student No. 5060324. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 5:0.

3. Awarding of Contract for Completion of Unimproved Space at the Ventura County Office of Education Conference & Educational Services Center

Mr. Mantooth reported that bids for completion of unimproved space at the Conference & Educational Services Center were opened at 3:00 p.m. on July 16, 2008. Mr. Mantooth distributed additional information pertaining to the bid award. Mr. Mantooth recommended that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, GRD Construction for \$552,255.00. Mr. Hanson reported that GRD Construction is very experienced in school construction, and almost all of their subcontractors are based in Ventura County. Mr. Lyons, Architect, explained that 9500 square feet will be developed, including 10 private offices, meeting rooms, storage areas, and an open office area adjacent to the window walls. The finish materials will match that of the existing building. The expected completion date would be approximately mid-February.

After discussion, Mr. Valenzano moved the Board award the contract for completion of unimproved space at the VCOE Conference & Educational Services Center to GRD Construction for \$552,255.00. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:1, with Mr. Kunicki voting nay.

4. First Reading and Possible Approval of Revisions to Board Policy No. 2126, Setting and Adjustment of Salary for Superintendent of Schools

At their July 9, 2008 meeting, the Board approved setting a salary range for the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools at \$165,000 - \$225,000. Per the Board's request, Board Policy No. 2126 has been revised to reflect this range.

Mr. Mantooth distributed a revised copy of Board Policy No. 2126, as a word was inadvertently deleted from the policy provided in the explanatory material. The doctoral stipend was to apply only to a Superintendent earning the entry level salary.

The Board clarified that the salary range adopted on July 9, 2008, was for the individual the Board will appoint, not necessarily capping what an existing Superintendent might make.

Mr. Valenzano moved the proposed Board Policy No. 2126 be revised as follows: "The Superintendent's salary shall be set at an amount not less than \$165,000 ~~and not more than \$225,000~~ per year"; and it is the intention of the Board that there be a \$225,000 per year cap for the current Superintendent search. With those changes, the Board waived the second reading and approve revisions to Board Policy No. 2126, Setting and Adjustment of Salary for Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and it carried 4:1, with Mr. Kunicki voting nay.

5. Resolution No. 08-03 in Opposition to SBX13 (Cox), Diverting Proposition 10 Early Childhood Funds

Mrs. Peterson reported that both she and Mr. Kunicki developed resolutions in Opposition to SBX13 (Cox) for the Board's consideration. Mrs. Peterson moved the Board table this item to August 25, 2008. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mrs. Peterson moved that the Board adopt Resolution No. 08-03 (page 1) with the following changes: replace the first 3 whereas clauses on page 1 with the first 3 whereas clauses from page 2. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Valenzano moved the Board adopt Resolution No. 08-03 with the following changes: Merge the two resolutions as follows:

Utilize the first 3 whereas clauses on page 1;

Change the 3<sup>rd</sup> whereas clause on page 1 to read, "Proposition 10 has created ...";

After the 4<sup>th</sup> whereas clauses on page 1, insert:

The 3<sup>rd</sup> whereas clause found on page 2; Followed by the 1<sup>st</sup> whereas clause on page 3, with the following change, "... stability and ~~in expanding and have maintaining~~ maintained a high quality of services ~~that support families to raise children who are emotionally, socially, and academically ready for school~~" and add the last whereas phrase from page 4.

Follow with 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause from page 1.

Mr. Elder seconded Mr. Valenzano's motion.

Mrs. Peterson moved to amend the motion as follows: that the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> whereas clauses on page 1 be removed, and replaced with the last whereas clause from page 5. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Valenzano moved to amend his motion as follows:

That the wording in the 6<sup>th</sup> whereas clause be changed to, "... because of ~~the~~ a dysfunctional legislative process ..." and that the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> whereas clauses on page 1 be reversed.

Mr. Elder accepted the amendment to the motion. The motion to amend the original motion as stated carried 4:1, with Mrs. Peterson voting nay.

Mr. Valenzano then called for a vote on the original motion, and the motion carried 4:1 with Mrs. Peterson voting nay.

6. Resolution No. 08-04 in Opposition to Proposed Prison Hospital

Mr. Kunicki reported that he and Mr. Valenzano have investigated the issues regarding a proposed prison hospital to be located at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Ventura Youth Correctional facility in Camarillo, and have developed the presented resolution. Mr. Valenzano requested the following changes to the resolution:

Change the name of the existing facility to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Ventura Youth Correctional facility;  
In the 1<sup>st</sup> whereas clause, change "is ~~in the process of closing~~ looking to close the ..."

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> whereas clause, after "has identified", add "the Ventura Youth Correctional facility as the location for the proposed ..."

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> whereas clauses, change "This" to "The proposed"

In the 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause, change "This" to "The proposed Prison Hospital;" and

Capitalize the first letter of all whereas clauses.

Mr. Valenzano moved the Board adopt Resolution No. 08-04, In Opposition to Proposed Prison Hospital to be located at California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, Ventura Youth Correctional Facility, in Camarillo, with the requested changes. Mr. Kunicki seconded the motion, and it carried 4:0:1, with Mrs. Peterson abstaining.

7. Capitol Venture, LLC Statement for Services

Mr. Mantoosh reported that the statement provided by Capitol Venture, LLC, references expenses incurred by Joe Yocca on behalf of the Ventura County Board of Education for a June 3, 2008 meeting with Wal-Mart regarding ROCP. Mr. Valenzano noted that this invoice does reflect allowable expenses; and that he and Mr. Kunicki attended this meeting. The purpose of this meeting was for the subcommittee to develop a proposal which will be brought before the Board.

Mr. Mantooth noted that the attached invoice reflects an overcharge of \$206. Capitol Venture has submitted a corrected invoice. This statement is attached for the Board's information and review.

**M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

1. Mr. Elder recommended a letter be sent to the State Board of Education requesting that textbooks reflect the adopted standards. Mr. Elder will draft the letter and return it to the Board President for review.
2. Mrs. Peterson requested a future agenda item on the June 3, 2008 meeting with Capitol Venture, LLC. Why were these expenses charged in addition to the monthly contract, and were any staff members invited to attend?

**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Discussion of School Districts of Choice, including correspondence F.2 from 7/28/08 (requested by Mr. Valenzano, TBD).
2. Review of Board Expenditures on Memberships in CSBA, CCBE and CSBA Legal Alliance (requested by Mr. Kunicki to allow for Public Comments, TBD).
3. Letter in Support of SB606 (Perata), School District Accountability (requested by Mrs. Peterson, 8/25/08).
4. Letter in Support of Secure Rural Schools funding (requested by Mrs. Peterson, 8/25/08).
5. Letter in Support of Federal Reading First funding (requested by Mrs. Peterson, 8/25/08).
6. Adoption of Social Science Textbooks for Gateway, Providence and Phoenix Schools (9/22/08).
7. Report on June 3, 2008 meeting with Wal-Mart regarding ROCP (requested by Mrs. Peterson, TBD).

**O. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Mr. Valenzano noted that the correct start time for the Friday, August 15, 2008 meeting will be 8:00 a.m., and the start time for the Monday, August 18, 2008 meeting will be 10:00 a.m.

Board packets for the August 15-16, 2008, and August 18, 2008, meetings were distributed.

Date: *Friday, August 15, 2008*  
Time: 8:00 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*  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
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 9:22 a.m.

***Approved by Board Action on 8/25/08.***

*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.*