

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
June 18, 2018

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 18-09, was called to order by Dean Kunicki, Board Vice-President at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2018, 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. Kunicki, followed by a moment of reflection.
2. Roll Call
Trustees Present:
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1 - *Absent*
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
Dr. Roger Rice, Deputy Superintendent, Student Services
Misty Key, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal and Administrative Services
Dr. Antonio Castro, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Mary Samples, Assistant Superintendent, SELPA
Dr. Julie Judd, Chief Technology Officer
Kenny Loo, Principal, Court & Community Schools

Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant
Roger Ruiz, Facilities
3. Approval of Agenda
Mr. Bates moved the agenda be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those present (4:0). Ms. Ulrich was absent.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

None.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of May 29, 2018
Dr. Lisagor moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 29, 2018 be approved. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a 3:0:1 vote; with Mr. Bates, Dr. Lisagor, and Mr. Kunicki voting aye and Dr. Flores abstaining. Ms. Ulrich was absent.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

1. Dr. Flores reported that he attended a number of graduations – ACE, Santa Paula High School (Robotics program), Gateway, and Boswell. He will soon be traveling to Sacramento to take part in a CSBA Committee that is working to update the CSBA Masters in Governance series.
2. Dr. Lisagor reported that he too attended multiple graduations – Providence, River Oaks Academy, Triton Academy, Boswell, Gateway, and CEC Culmination.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mantooth reported on the following activities of the Office:

1. County Office of Educations and Boards are charged with providing certification for district attendance supervisors of record. The VCOE will be offering a training on School Attendance & Accountability for Supervisors of Attendance and SARB Certification Training. The workshop will also cover strategies to address chronic absenteeism.
2. A Facility Naming committee is being developed for the new Special Education School. Mr. Kunicki and Mr. Bates have volunteered to serve on this committee. Parents and staff will be included. Mr. Mantooth will report on the makeup of the full committee at a future meeting.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

None.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

None.

K. PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Public Hearing on Ventura County Office of Education Local Control Accountability Plan (VCOE LCAP)

Dr. Rice reviewed the process used in the drafting of the VCOE LCAP. Data, including the gathering of stakeholder input, has been collected since February. The Annual Update on the LCAP was provided to the Board in April, and the Goals, Actions, and Services were provided in May.

Dr. Rice reviewed the areas of strong progress. The rate of chronic absenteeism has taken a turn for the worse. Our programs strive for an attendance rate of greater than 77.6%. Absenteeism continues to be an area of struggle at Gateway. Many of the students are referred to Gateway due to chronic absenteeism at their home district. These same students then have to ride a bus for up to 45 minutes to get to Gateway. VCOE has tried offering satellite locations, but that was not good for the strength of the program. This will be an area of continued effort.

Successes include: strong progress continues in the areas of referrals and suspensions (both have decreased). The one year graduation rate has increased; and the Foster Youth Transportation agreement was negotiated and implemented.

Areas of Growth continue to be attendance; academic achievement; project-based learning to increase student engagement; and increased participation in the Career Education Center (CEC). This will be an area of strong emphasis next year. Triton will temporarily be located close to the CEC which will provide easy access. Specific targeted performance levels are being developed for Phoenix School. Although there is no State requirement that Special Ed be addressed in the County LCAP, Phoenix will now implement many of the strategies that Gateway has developed.

Dr. Rice reviewed the Goals and Actions which include services to Foster and Expelled Youth. Dr. Rice acknowledged the presence of Mr. Kenny Loo, Principal, Court and Community Schools and thanked him for his service to VCOE. Mr. Taylor has been working alongside Mr. Loo to enable a smooth transition of leadership.

Mr. Kunicki requested that Mr. Taylor be invited to next week's meeting.

- a. Mr. Kunicki opened the PUBLIC HEARING on the VCOE LCAP at 6:17 p.m. Hearing no comments, Mr. Kunicki closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 6:18 p.m.

Adoption of the VCOE LCAP is scheduled for June 25, 2018.

2. Public Hearing on the 2018-19 County Schools Service Fund Budget

The following member of the public addressed the Board:

Justin Ward, Camarillo resident and Member of the Military

Mr. Ward asked if the County Office and local school districts were applying for Federal Impact Aid. He has two children in Pleasant Valley School District, and another child attends a VCOE program. He did not see Federal Impact Aid listed in the VCOE budget.

Ms. Key explained that VCOE is not eligible for Federal Impact Aid. The eligible local districts can apply for these funds. When students are served by VCOE, costs are billed to the local school districts.

Ms. Key reviewed the State budget which is presented on the state report form. Page 1 reflects deficit spending for the next fiscal year - \$108 million in Revenue and \$113 million in Expenses. This is deliberate. Balances from restricted funds carry forward, and exact carry forward balances are not yet known since we are still spending in the current year.

The main source of restricted dollars is Special Education. The CEC also has about \$3 million in restricted grant funds that must be spent by June 30, 2019.

Mr. Kunicki asked how the Office plans to maintain the CEC program after the grant funds end. Mr. Mantooth noted that in a worst case scenario, money will be dedicated from General fund dollars and the amount of service would have to be reduced. Funding for CEC is anticipated from the Governor's budget, in addition to streamlining programs, and possible billing to the local school districts. Dr. Rice added that the countywide services provided by CEC, including Entree to Employment, will likely have to be scaled back. Funds have been carefully expended and staff has maximized the funds available.

Page 2 shows a negative \$5.3 million in the far column, last line. This is an error. The figure should be 0. This will be corrected when the final budget is presented on June 25, 2018.

Page 7 shows the increase in employer contributions for STRS and PERS. The rates are increasing approximately 2% each. In 2017-18 the STRS rate was 14.43%; in 18-19 the rate will be 16.28%; and the rate for 19-20 is anticipated to be 18.13%. The PERS rate will be 18.062% in 18-19. The cost of STRS and PERS will be approximately \$1 million more next year.

Mr. Kunicki has asked how the Office anticipates addressing this issue in the future. Mr. Mantooth noted that as a large share of VCOE's operations are being paid by the districts, a large portion of the increase in STRS and PERS is underwritten by the districts. The Office continues to enjoy a good relationship with bargaining units. Total compensation is always considered and discussed.

Health and Welfare benefits are estimated to increase 11.4% for 18-19. The year over year increase is attributed to a 0-6% increase in premiums. VCOE offers a wide variety of plans. Open enrollment is in September so the actual increase based on employee plan selections will be included in the First Period Interim report.

Page 18 includes the SELPA Pass Through funds. \$93 million in pass through funds were received in 18-19. The slight increase is due to a small COLA provided by the State.

VCOE anticipates receiving \$2.5 million in Child Development Funds. These are very restricted dollars and must all be spent each year.

Special Reserve Fund is used primarily to address cashflow issues. The reserve for retiree health benefits is included in this Fund. Next year, these dollars – approximately \$6 million - will be separated into Fund 20 for Retiree Benefits.

Page 39, Facilities Fund. Amounts will be updated when State School Bond funds are received for the construction of the new Special Education facility.

Page 62, Debt Service fund includes the payment of the Certificates of Participation (COPs) debt for the Conference Center. At the end of this year, the fund will be \$11 million. Ultimately there is enough money in this fund to pay off the debt. The Special education facility will be fully paid for by State facility bond funds. Once this debt is retired, we can rebuild reserves or to help fund other programs.

- a. Mr. Kunicki opened the PUBLIC HEARING on the 2018-19 County Schools Service Fund Budget at 6:47 p.m. Hearing no comments, Mr. Kunicki closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 6:48 p.m.

Adoption of the 2018-19 County Schools Service Fund Budget is scheduled for June 25, 2018.

3. Ventura County Plan for Expelled Pupils, Triennial Update, June 2018
Mr. Mantooth reported that the Ventura County Plan for Expelled Pupils details the existing school district and county office educational alternatives available to expelled pupils in Ventura County.

Dr. Rice noted that this plan must be updated every three years. In the past, the prior updates have been routine and limited to only those required by code. This year's update was extensive and efforts were made to develop this Plan as a resource for local school districts. This iteration is much easier for users to access. Stakeholders from the student services collaborative (those who deal with suspensions and expulsions in the local school districts) and from the community including the California Rural Legal Assistance, Probation Agency, VC Public Defender all had input into creating this document.

The electronic version is posted on the VCOE website under Student Services, and contains resources with active links to Education Code, current laws, and best practices.

Pages 11 and 12 include information on the current School Accountability System, and the School Dashboard. Local Probation agencies identify how they transition students. Page 40 includes the text of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by all agencies. Providence School students can qualify for state minimum graduation requirements. Some students still reach the higher state requirements of 230 credits. This is detailed in the plan.

Page 14 includes information on high impact strategies and best practices in preventing suspensions and expulsions.

Pages 19-25 provide a much more robust description of Gateway School and the program offered. This information can be used by parents, boards, and school districts.

The Appendix begins on Page 38. Appendixes include: Parental Rights and Responsibilities; and model rehabilitation plans for expulsions are provided to assist districts in addressing the needs of individual students.

The Board expressed their thanks and appreciation to staff for the work that went into this document

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board adopt the Triennial Update to the Ventura County Plan for Expelled Pupils as submitted. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

4. Approval of Resolution 18-05, Board Trustee Compensation for Missed Meetings
Mr. Mantooth explained that when a County Board Member is absent from a meeting due to other than school business, the Governing Board must resolve to approve the reason as a hardship deemed acceptable by the Board of Education, in order for the member to receive the regular Board Meeting compensation.

Mr. Bates moved the Board approve full compensation for Dr. Flores for | May 29, 2018 by adoption of Resolution 18-05. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Mr. Kunicki thanked Board members and staff for their messages during his family's recent issues.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Budget and LCAP (*Adoption, June 25, 2018*)
2. Courses of Study (*July or August 2018*)

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: ***Monday, June 25, 2018***
Time: ***5:30 p.m.***
Location: ***5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo***
Purpose: ***GROUND BREAKING Ceremony for Special Ed Facility***

Date: Monday, June 25, 2018 (*Adoption of LCAP & Budget*)
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, July 23, 2018
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Monday, August 6, 2018 (Joint Meeting with VCCCD Board)***
Time: ***6:00 p.m.***
Location: ***VCCCD, Board Room, 761 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo***
Purpose: ***Special Meeting of the Board***

P. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kunicki adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Approved by Board Action on 6/25/18.

*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.*