

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF
DECEMBER 12, 2022**

A. CALL TO ORDER / ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

1. Call To Order, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Moment of Reflection
The Annual Organizational Meeting of the Ventura County Board of Education, Agenda No. 22-20, was called to order by Dr. César Morales, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools and Ex-Officio Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 12, 2022, in the Board Room of the VCOE Conference and Educational Services Center at 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, California. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Dr. Morales and followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Oath of Office
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin administered the Oath of Office to Dr. César Morales, County Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. César Morales administered the Oath of Office to:

Rachel Ulrich, Trustee, Area 1
Michael Teasdale, Trustee, Area 2
Arleigh Kidd, Trustee, Area 4

3. Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Guests
Trustees Present:
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1
Mike Teasdale, Area 2
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3
Arleigh Kidd, Area 4
Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5

VCOE Personnel Present:
Dr. César Morales, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools and Ex-Officio Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board
Misty Key, Deputy Superintendent, Fiscal & Administrative Services
Lisa Salas Brown, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Consuelo Hernandez Williams, Associate Superintendent, Student Services
Emily Mostovoy-Luna, Associate Superintendent, SELPA
Teri Page, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Lisa Bork, Sr. Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Aurelia Roman, Executive Assistant

6:15 p.m. – 15-minute Break for Reception for Newly Sworn-In Board Trustees

6:30 p.m. – Meeting resumed

4. Approval of Agenda

The documents under L1, First Interim Budget needs to be split into two separate agenda items to have the Audit Report as a separate agenda item. Dr. Morales suggested making the amendment to move action item L1, First Interim to action item L2, and add a new action item L1, 2021-22 Audit Report.

Dr. Lisagor moved the agenda be approved with the amendment to move action item L1, First Interim to action item L2, and add a new action item L1, 2021-22 Audit Report. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous roll call vote (5:0).

5. Organizational – Election of Officers: Board President

Dr. Morales opened the nominations for the position of Board President for 2023. He noted that in accordance with Board Policy No. 9121, the elected president will also serve as representative to vote in election for members of the County Committee on School District Organization at the County Committee's annual meeting.

Dr. Lisagor nominated Arleigh Kidd as Board President for 2023. Mr. Kidd accepted the nomination. Dr. Flores seconded the motion. Hearing no further nominations, Dr. Morales closed the nominations.

Arleigh Kidd was elected Board President for 2023 upon a unanimous roll call vote (5:0).

Dr. Morales thanked Ms. Ulrich for her service as Board President for 2021.

Arleigh Kidd, Board President for 2023, assumed leadership of the meeting.

6. Organizational – Election of Officers: Board Vice President

Mr. Kidd opened the nominations for Board Vice President for 2023.

Ms. Ulrich nominated Dr. Ramon Flores as Board Vice President for 2023. Dr. Lisagor seconded the nomination. Dr. Flores accepted the nomination. Hearing no further nominations, Mr. Kidd closed the nominations.

Dr. Ramon Flores was elected Board Vice President for 2023 upon a unanimous roll call vote (5:0).

7. Organizational – Election of Committee Representative: California School Boards Association County Board Delegate Nominee

Mr. Kidd opened the nominations for the position of California School Boards Association County Board Delegate Nominee.

Ms. Ulrich nominated Arleigh Kidd for the position of California School Boards Association County Board Delegate Nominee. Dr. Flores seconded the nomination. Mr. Kidd acknowledged that he is willing to serve.

Mr. Kidd was elected CSBA County Board Delegate Nominee upon a unanimous roll call vote (5:0).

8. Organizational – Set Date, Time and Place of Meetings

The Board reviewed the proposed 2023 Ventura County Board of Education meeting schedule. Regular meetings are scheduled on the fourth Monday of each month from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Extra meetings, for the purposes of Budget Study Sessions and the LCAP Public Hearing, are held on Friday's from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The March meeting is off schedule due to the Second Interim report being due to CDE by March 15th.

Mr. Teasdale mentioned the November 27th meeting might be a conflict due to the CSBA Annual Conference. Ms. Ulrich said there should be enough Board members available to cover the Board meeting.

Ms. Ulrich moved the Board adopt the proposed 2023 Ventura County Board of Education Calendar of meetings as proposed. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous roll call vote (5:0).

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

None.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2022.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2022, be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

F. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Mr. Teasdale thanked Lisa Brown for her wonderful presentation at the CSBA conference. He also mentioned the new CCBE Trustee Handbook is a great resource to better understand the role of board trustee.

Dr. Lisagor said the CSBA conference was of the highest quality. He especially enjoyed the workshop on AI, a subject we need to engage kids with starting in Kindergarten.

Ms. Ulrich enjoyed the conference session by Lisa Brown. The CCBE Directors meeting was mainly focused on getting the trustee handbook out.

Dr. Flores commented on the wellness centers in Oxnard and the positive impact they have on the Latino community.

Dr. Flores said the trustee handbook can be viewed all over the state and defines trustee roles in education code. Dr. Flores is the committee chair for the March CCBE meeting.

Mr. Kidd enjoyed the CSBA conference and the conversations around the state budget. He plans on attending the Simi Valley and Moorpark Unified School District Board meetings some time in February 2023.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Morales appreciated the opportunity to attend the CSBA conference in San Diego, especially being able to spend time with Board members and superintendents around the county.

The State of the County event was held on Thursday, November 29; Dr. Morales participated as a panelist. The event was at capacity. He is grateful for the partnerships VCOE has with the county agencies and executive team to support our districts.

He attended the ribbon cutting at the English Learner Parent Center at Acacia Elementary School in Conejo Valley Unified School District on December 6, 2022. He appreciated the opportunity to speak to a group of parents who were in an English class and learning how to demystify the education trajectory of their child. Kudos to the Conejo Valley Unified School District for opening this center.

Dr. Morales said he, Dr. Williams, Lisa Brown, and Teri Page had a walk-through at Providence with Tim Dowler, Deputy Chief of Probation, and staff members from Assemblymember Irwin's office. Assemblymember Irwin's office is paying close attention to our juvenile facility and there is a great deal of discussion on funding.

On Thursday, December 8th, the Student Services Branch hosted an event for our District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) and the Regional Parent Advisory Council (RPAC). There were several Mariachi student bands performing; the event was well attended and was a great success. Special kudos to Dr. Williams and her team for putting this event together.

Dr. Morales gave the Board an update on the Dashboard Assignment Monitoring which addresses all misassignments throughout the state. He said there is an action plan underway.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Teasdale mentioned that CSBA has invested in a new research team to explore the impact of a new assembly bill.

Dennis Meyers, CSBA's Assistant Executive Director of Governmental Relations is

going to reach out to other organizations to create a small coalition to support CTE initiatives.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Temporary County Certificates

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board approve Consent Item J1. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS

None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. 2021-22 Audit Report

Kelly Kavanaugh from the firm Eide Bailly reviewed the 2021-22 Audit Report for VCOE.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board accept the 2021-22 Audit Report for the Ventura County Office of Education as presented. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion and it passed unanimously (5:0).

2. First Interim Budget Report

Ms. Key addressed the First Interim Budget noting that grant awards and contracts identifying actual amounts have been received, and there are more to come. The books have been closed and the dollar amounts being carried forward are now known.

Ms. Key noted a slight adjustment was made from the original posted document listing a couple of programs budgets from under SELPA to Educational Services and Student Services. One example is Comprehensive Health and Prevention Program. No overall adjustment to the figures were made, just a summary adjustment to the branch totals.

Mr. Ulrich inquired about the expenses being 11 million dollars higher than our revenue. Ms. Key explained this is deliberate deficit spending.

Mr. Kidd asked if the funding for Gateway is sufficient. Ms. Key noted students have to be expelled or on probation before funding kicks in for Gateway. If students are enrolled who are not eligible, the funding is not received. Funding is per student and is based on average daily attendance for the annual attendance for one person. Gateway and Providence have low enrollment and low attendance. The attendance at Providence is at 43 students, multiplied by approximately \$22,000 is the entitlement LCFF to be received. The reality is we really touch between 300-400 students which results in a lot of administrative workload to enroll and then transfer students back to home districts. There is an effort statewide to bring attention to our two county programs to increase the funding.

Mr. Teasdale mentioned there is talk in Sacramento of funding counties who

operate incarcerated students and community schools as if it were a small district.

Ms. Ulrich assumes this was why Assemblymember Irwin's staff was touring Providence. She wondered if Assemblymember Bennett and Senator Limon have been contacted. Dr. Morales said the juvenile facility also adds another complexity given those kids who are committed, in detention and isolated, in addition to special needs students. Funding is needed on both fronts.

Ms. Key addressed average daily attendance on page 6 with the projected ADA of 119,000. Ventura County is in severe declining enrollment.

Page 26 – other state revenue category projections decreased by 2.6 million. One time carry over dollars from the previous year are identified and action is taken to spend them.

VCOE Employees received a one-time 4% off schedule on December 5, 2022.

Lisa Brown said the California Dashboard results are being released soon and they will look at the data and determine what will be needed to support districts.

Enrollment has increased at Odyssey and a new assistant principal is needed to cover both Odyssey and Gateway. An additional position has been added in credentialing; Educator Support Effectiveness has a high candidate enrollment to get credentials cleared.

Notable changes are in the Supply category, which changed by 1.3 million. This is connected to special education alternative dispute and learning loss mitigation; these reflect the dollars being carried forward. The welding project funds are starting to be added into the budget as expenditures are identified for the improved welding program to include being a certification testing site.

In the 5\000 category, the biggest change is increasing the expenses by 5.9 million, a lot of this is contracted out work. Our Educator Support and Effectiveness Department increased due to the fees related to the participants. There is a higher candidate enrollment for educators who are working on their credentials and are cleared through our program. There is also an increase in contracts from the Career Education Program budget. We contract out and send those dollars through to the school districts for the Strong Workforce Grant.

The Facilities account increased the amount being spent on professional services in the 5800 code which is connected to the one-time projects for the routine restricted maintenance account.

Mr. Teasdale said the 5.9 million seems to be a response to a greater volume for demand for services and there are 3 or 4 areas that are the key drivers. Ms. Key acknowledged this is the case.

Page 79 has the multi-year projection. The deficit dollar amount is large, and adjustments will be made as the carried forward funds are spent.

Increase/Decrease in fund balance is where the deficit spending is. In the projected year it was at about 12.5 million and has been refined to 11.2 million, and in the third year, it reduces to 8.7 million. Adjustments are made as those projected balances are being spent.

Ms. Key noted that VCOE will maintain its reserves. The required amount, plus the amount on hand to meet cash flow needs. Using Fund 17 cash flow reserves allows us to have enough cash on hand to meet three months of payroll.

Ms. Key recommends a positive certification.

Mr. Teasdale inquired about the ESSER funds. Ms. Key said those funds will be spent over time. There are various ending dates and restricted purposes. VCOE is working to ensure we spend them, and also have some set aside for the salaries of staff who have been hired with those dollars.

Mr. Ulrich moved the Board approve the First Interim Budget Report as presented with the Superintendent's positive certification. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and it passed unanimously (5:0).

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Teasdale thanked Ms. Key for her presentation and said the more knowledge he has on how the budget impacts students and services, the more he can help the county.

Ms. Ulrich congratulated President Kidd on his new responsibilities.

Dr. Flores is happy to serve and help in his capacity as vice president.

Mr. Kidd thanked Board members for the honor of being the new Board president. He thanked Ms. Ulrich for doing a great job of Board president last year and being the CSBA delegate. He also thanked Mr. Teasdale for his work at the state level. Mr. Kidd is also very appreciative of staff and all they do. He is looking forward to his first full term.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Flores commented on declining enrollment and how Transitional Kindergarten adds to the complexity. He recommended having a Transitional Kindergarten conversation at a future meeting. Mr. Kidd said when the Board meets with Dr. Morales to discuss goals, perhaps Transitional Kindergarten could be part of the conversation. Even though it is a countywide program, he would like to see a more cohesive response to it throughout the county.

Mr. Teasdale commented on recent readings regarding the low scores of low-income boys in grammar school.

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Per the adopted 2023 Ventura County Board of Education Calendar of Regular meetings (Agenda Item A.8), future meetings are as follows:

Date: Monday, January 23, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Friday, February 10, 2023
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Location: 5189 Verdugo Way, Simi Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, February 27, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

P. ADJOURNMENT


Mr. Kidd adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

January 23, 2023
Date



Arleigh Kidd, Board President

January 23, 2023
Date



Dr. César Morales, Ex-Officio Secretary and
Executive Officer of the Board

*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.*