

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
November 29, 2021**

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 21-15, was called to order by Mike Teasdale, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 29, 2021, 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. Teasdale and followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present:

Michael Teasdale, Area 2

Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3

Arleigh Kidd, Area 4

Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5

Absent: Rachel Ulrich, Area 1

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

Dr. Consuelo Hernandez Williams, Associate Superintendent, Student Services

Lisa Salas Brown, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

Emily Mostovoy Luna, Associate Superintendent SELPA

Teri Page, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

Lisa Bork, Senior Executive Assistant

Wanda Runcie, Executive Assistant

Manny Ruiz, Conference Facilities Technician

3. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Lisagor moved the agenda be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (3:0).

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susan Murphy, Camarillo. Ms. Murphy is a retired school teacher and is concerned that California currently ranks number 37 in overall educational achievement. She believes money is given with a mandate and schools are required to follow the rules. She suggests making a change and refuse money unless school leaders have the local authority to design critical thinking. The future demand on kids will be more difficult. Kids and school leaders are victims.

C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 21-06

Rosales vs. Oxnard Elementary School District

This Interdistrict Attendance Appeal case was previously resolved by the district.

2. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 21-07
Roskowitz vs. Conejo Valley Unified School District
Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 21-07.
Dr. Flores seconded the motion and the motion carried upon a unanimous roll call vote (3:0).

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of October 25, 2021.
Dr. Lisagor moved the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of October 25, 2021 be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (3:0).

F. INTERVIEWS FOR PROVISIONAL APPOINTMENT, TRUSTEE AREA #4

Candidate Interviews, Nominations, and Selection of Provisional Appointee to Board Seat for Trustee Area #4

Effective October 25, 2021, Mr. Rob Collins, Trustee Area #4 resigned his seat on the Ventura County Board of Education. On October 25, 2021, the Board took action to fill the vacancy for Trustee Area #4 by provisional appointment. An Adhoc Committee consisting of Mr. Teasdale and Dr. Lisagor was formed. The Provisional Board Trustee, Area #4 will serve until December 9, 2022.

The position was advertised in the local media beginning October 28, 2021 with a deadline of November 10, 2021. Candidates have been reviewed to determine that all eligibility requirements were met – applicant must be a registered voter, resident of the Trustee area, and must not be an employee of the Ventura County Office of Education or any school district in Ventura County.

Members of the Board Adhoc Committee met on November 12, 2021 to review candidates and recommend the Board interview three candidates at the November 29, 2021 Board meeting. Candidates will be allowed to make a three-minute timed presentation on their resume and/or reasons for desiring to be a provisional appointee to Trustee Area #4. The Board President will then ask questions of the candidate with candidates having two minutes to respond. Board members may elect to ask follow-up questions based upon specific information provided by an individual candidate. The following candidates (in alphabetical order) will be interviewed.

- Marques Crutchfield
- Arleigh Kidd
- Mark Van Dam

The Board may take action to select and approve the provisional appointee for Trustee Area #4 – Moorpark, Simi Valley, Santa Susana Knolls, Box Canyon, Chatsworth Peak, Home Acres, Sinaloa Lake and Tierra Rejada Valley. The duties and powers of the position will be conferred upon the appointee immediately upon selection.

Applicant Mr. Crutchfield was not able to attend the Board meeting. Dr. Flores made a motion to appoint Arleigh Kidd. Dr. Lisagor seconded the nomination. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 3:0. Upon this 3:0 vote, Mr. Kidd was selected and approved as the provisional appointee for Trustee Area #4.

Dr. Morales said there were many qualified candidates to choose from and he wished to express his thanks for the interest in this position. Dr. Morales gave Mr. Kidd the Oath of Office and Mr. Kidd took his place on the Board.

Break - 7:10-7:15 p.m.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

None

H. PRESIDENT’S AND BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS

Upcoming Events

CSBA Annual Conference	December 2-4, 2021
Academic Decathlon	January 8, 2021- February 5, 2022
Mock Trial.....	February 8-11, 15-17, 2022
Science Fair	March 18, 2022
VCOE Equity Conference	March 22, 2022

Dr. Flores continues to support Ms. Ulrich in her CCBE work. On November 9, 2021, he attended River Oaks Academy in Oxnard with Assemblymember Irwin. This was an opportunity to show her the unique educational choice that River Oaks has to offer and hopefully maintain her continued support when charter legislation pertaining to independent study programs arise in the future.

Dr. Lisagor also attended the River Oaks Academy on November 9th. It is a fantastic facility, and it was a wonderful opportunity to work alongside Assemblymember Irwin. He was pleased to see the Civic Alliance meeting being held at VCOE facilities and noted Mr. Morales did a great job on the panel. Dr. Lisagor also attended a graduation at Providence and was impressed that the student had been released but returned to Providence to participate to her graduation ceremony.

Mr. Kidd thanked the Board for their vote of confidence. He looks forward to serving the county.

Mr. Teasdale attended the River Oaks Academy and Civic Alliance events as well. He thanked Dr. Flores and Dr. Morales who will be presenting this Friday at the CCBE conference on CTE.

I. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Morales welcomed Trustee Kidd.

Dr. Morales announced the first recipient of the Ventura County Board of Education scholarship. This student attended a college course while at Providence and finished her senior year a semester early. She worked with a counselor to create an education plan. She is working 40 hours a week until she starts college. She is very deserving of this scholarship. Dr. Morales thanked the Board for acknowledging this young lady.

Friday, January 28, 2021 is the annual All Staff Gathering. This year’s theme is “Gratitude is Golden.” There will be a BBQ lunch and a Mister Softee Truck.

Dr. Morales has received notice from the Oak Park Board President Allen Rosen that he will be resigning effective January 19, 2022.

Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin and her staff have been working in collaboration with VCOE on Special Education funding in this year's upcoming governor's budget.

Dr. Morales displayed a plaque to be given to Mr. Rob Collins thanking him for his service.

J. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

K. CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS

1. Mileage Reimbursement Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates (41)

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve Consent Items K1 through K2 be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (3:0).

L. PRESENTATIONS

None.

M. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Annual Programmatic Audit Presentation by Ventura Charter School
On April 13, 2006, the Ventura County Board of Education approved the charter school petition for Ventura Charter School (VCS). On February 22, 2021, the Board approved the renewal of VCS, with the term of the charter expiring on June 30, 2028. In accordance with the VCOE Charter School Progress Report Timeline, representatives from Ventura Charter School will present information required in the annual programmatic audit detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding which includes provisions for the LCAP.

Dr. Hernandez Williams welcomed Marlo Hartsuyker, Director, Charter School Support. Ms. Hartsuyker noted that Mary Galvin is retiring and acknowledged her as a valuable asset to the Ventura Charter School as well as in the charter school community. Ms. Galvin will present with her director of education, Lisa Hildebrand. Ventura Charter School also has a new assistant director, Amanda Arragon. They will be joined by Rudy Calasin, director of school business services, and Tom McNerney who is a VCOE employee, and is on the VCS Board.

Ms. Galvin said Covid has made the last few years very challenging. Last year the students and teachers learned and adapted to distance learning; this year Covid quarantines are challenges in terms of attendance and keeping children on track.

Attendance this year averages at about 95%. Classroom enrollment is 409 students and there are 39 homeschool students. Fifty-two students are on a waiting list. Ventura Charter School has established several Covid safety protocols and provided technology to staff and students during this time. The biggest focus for students and staff is social, emotional and mental health support.

The MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing data isn't really reflective of where students were during Covid. More special education testing is being done. There is a large percent of third graders who qualify for special education.

Ventura Charter School just hired a math intervention teacher. They also have a great special education team. General Education and SPED teachers collaborate together.

Mr. Calasin said Ventura Charter School has a solid budget and a very healthy reserve. Covid relief funds are being spent. A large number of devices and student and teacher desks were purchased, and intervention teacher positions were increased. Rapid testing kits have been purchased and are used often.

Feedback indicated that most parents were pleased with how well their children did while attending Ventura Charter School last year. Parents were happy with the way VCS handled Covid. There was a high attendance rate and teachers stayed at VCS.

Mr. Kidd noted in the financial summary that benefits went up but there was a dip in salaries. Rudy replied this is related to one time funding received this year for the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant. There was an increase in hours for tutoring, additional interventions, etc. This isn't in the plan for next year unless more funding is received. Benefits go up in general. During Covid, not all of the specialist positions were funded.

Dr. Flores is pleased to see a full time technology staff support person. Dr. Flores would like to have data on enrollment by grade to see if there is declining enrollment in the early years. Ms. Galvin said they did drop this year – some students went into homeschool, they lost families who refused to wear masks and some families moved away. The core group of students and families are happy at VCS. Dr. Flores asked if VCS is planning on expanding to additional facilities. Ms. Galvin said they are settled for now, land is hard to find and they would need major financial backing.

Dr. Lisagor – congratulated Ms. Galvin on her retirement and a job well done. He inquired about the EL Education network. Ms. Hildebrand said there is a school designer who comes two days a month and does classroom walkthroughs. Insights gathered will be used to develop training and bring more complexity to lessons. This is a five year commitment. Staff will receive a lot of needed support.

Dr. Lisagor asked about declining enrollment – it seems it is much more impactful when the decline is happening in first grade. Ms. Galvin said students come to VCS in Kindergarten, right now kindergarten classes are full. Some of these students are siblings who get priority. First grade classes are also full. VCS is doing outreach to preschools in the city, and Zoom information tours. Hoping by spring parents can be on campus.

Mr. Teasdale inquired about the large number of third grade students who are in special education. Ms. Hildebrand said special education students are hard to identify when they are younger. VCS is focusing on math intervention in the 3rd and 4th grade. She also said that students in grades K-5 usually stay at VCS – after that they lose about 20%.

2. Adoption of 2021-2022 Courses of Study for Ventura County Career Education Center
The Ventura County Office of Education Career Education Center 2021-2022 Course of Study was presented for the Board's review and requested adoption at the October 25, 2021 Board meeting. Per Board Policy No. 6143, these courses of study conform to the county graduation requirements, provide students the opportunity to attain skills appropriate for entry-level employment in business and industry upon graduation from high school, and prepare students for college and career access.

Copies of the Ventura County Office of Education Career Education Center Course of Study have been available for review at the Ventura County Office of Education, Administrative Services Center, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, since October 25, 2021. Administration recommends the Board approve the Career Education Center 2021-2022 Course of Study.

Ms. Hernandez Williams noted that last month Laurie Arnold and Marty McGrady presented information on the Course of Study and she would like to recommend the Board adopt.

Dr. Lisagor made a motion to adopt the Ventura County Office of Education Career Education Center 2021-2022 Course of Study. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and it passed upon a unanimous roll call vote (4:0).

3. Ventura County Office of Education Educator Effectiveness Funds 2021 Block Grant.
Educator Effectiveness Funds (EEF) were awarded to county offices of education, school districts, charter schools, and state special schools to provide professional learning and to promote educator equity, quality, and effectiveness. Funds are allocated on the basis of an equal amount per certificated and classified full-time equivalent as reported in the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) and the California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS) for the 2020–21 fiscal year. EEF may be used to support professional learning for certificated teachers, administrators, paraprofessional educators, and certificated staff. Funds may be expended during the 2021-26 fiscal years. A final data and expenditure report will be due on or before September 30, 2026.

In accordance with CDE guidelines, the local plan for the Educator Effectiveness funds (EEF) will be heard in a public meeting of the governing board of the school district, the county board of education, or governing body of the charter school before its adoption in a subsequent public meeting. This must take place on or before December 30, 2021.

Dr. Hernandez Williams welcomed Christine Mahone, County Program Support and Accountability Director. Ms. Mahone said VCOE was awarded approximately 1.4 million in Educator Effectiveness funds. These funds will be spent over the next five fiscal years. These funds are to support professional learning for administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals and classified staff who work directly with students to promote educator equity, quality and effectiveness.

The first step is to seek input and collaborate. VCOE already has a system in place; Michele Harding has created an excellent ongoing system of seeking input which has produced information from surveys given after trainings. Michele leads a professional development committee who meets quarterly to go over data and plan for future development offerings based on needs.

The funds have to be expended within ten different professional learning areas. A summary of these areas are:

- Mentor support
- Trainings focused on
 - standards-aligned instruction and improving literacy
 - promoting pupil reengagement and accelerated learning
 - student social-emotional/mental well being
 - diversity/equity/inclusion
 - inclusive practices, UDL, early identification and legally sound IEPs
 - promoting English Language Acquisition
 - Principal's Academy & SPED Academy (ACSA Membership)
 - ethnic Studies curriculum
 - early childhood development

Dr. Lisagor inquired about the \$90,000 in ACSA membership. Ms. Mahone said this is a result of data. There was an extensive list of desired professional learning opportunities which could not be funded. We are now able to provide what the staff has asked for.

Mr. Teasdale asked if any of this funding is allocated to new staff. Ms. Mahone said these funds are all for trainings. These funds are also flexible.

4. Redistricting of Trustee Areas – INFORMATION / DISCUSSION (15 Minutes)

In conjunction with the recently released 2020 Census data, and per the provisions of Education Code Section 1002, the County Board of Education which elects trustees by trustee area has until March 1, 2022 to adjust the boundaries of the trustee areas to reflect population changes and minimize the population variance between trustee areas. The Board will review the proposed revisions to supervisorial map of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors and discuss whether or not the County Board of Education will continue to follow the new supervisorial map or consider its own trustee area map(s).

Ms. Key gave some context and background information referring to California Education Code 1002. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors has developed a map, which will be voted on at their December 15th Board meeting. The last couple of decades VCOE has followed the County Board of Supervisor's map. She inquired if Board members wish to seek a demographer to balance the populations to be something other than the supervisorial areas. We have to submit our boundaries to the county board of supervisors by March 1, 2022.

Dr. Flores indicated we are not obligated to follow the Board of Supervisors' map and asked about the timeline and cost to do something different. He doesn't believe school district boundaries were considered.

Ms. Key has reached out to the same demographer the County used. They have been studying data intently and are available to take this workload on for us and can do it efficiently. Ms. Key doesn't have an estimate but is guessing \$30,000-50,000 to study data and create maps. We would have them present their services to us based on the level of engagement we wish to pursue.

Dr. Morales suggested not to take short cuts; he wants to do it right and engage in robust conversations and start a calendar of discussions and a timeline, and then engage the demographer.

Mr. Kidd agreed this does warrant more discussion; there are significant changes.

Mr. Teasdale suggested we need to have clear criteria and meet education code requirements.

Ms. Key said the direction of the Board seems to be the concept of aligning with school districts. This fits within the section of the code of community of interests. She can guide the demographers to give us that information.

Dr. Flores asked about the December Board meeting in terms of the timeline.

Dr. Morales said it would be reasonable to have a description of what the make-up of the current supervisorial map is. What is the ethnic breakdown and how is it in compliance with the intent of the boundary process? Layer the different districts that exist in the supervisorial map and have a conversation about what other criteria we would like to include.

Mr. Teasdale asked if we could have the demographers attend the December Board meeting to have a dialogue about the criteria. What is the cost of breaking it down by school districts?

Dr. Lisagor followed the process of the county supervisorial map; it changed frequently. He appreciates the work done by the county supervisors. The community college district is probably going to go with the Board of Supervisors map.

Dr. Flores mentioned the community colleges are not limited to jurisdictions like school districts are.

Ms. Key said the demographer might not be available in December. The Board of Supervisors have a due date of December 15. Our due date is March 1. She believes she can present some helpful information to the Board at the December Board meeting.

Mr. Teasdale is concerned about money, but realizes we need to get information.

Ms. Key also reminded the group that we need to have a county committee action prior to March as well. We might need to consider adding a few special board meetings.

N. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dr. Flores welcomed Mr. Kidd to the Board.

Mr. Kidd thanked the Board for the appointment and is looking forward to working with everyone.

Dr. Lisagor mentioned that Dr. Charles Weis has been appointed to be Interim Dean of Cal State Channel Islands School of Education.

Mr. Teasdale thanked staff for the work on a very full Board packet.

O. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. CCBE computer survey
2. Annual Programmatic Audit for Bridges Charter School

P. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: Monday, December 13, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Annual Organizational Meeting

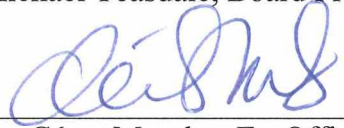
Q. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Teasdale adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Date: 12/13/21


Michael Teasdale, Board President

Date: 12/14/21


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

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