

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
February 19, 2019**

**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 19-02, was called to order by Dr. Mark Lisagor, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 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 Dr. Lisagor, and followed by a moment of reflection.
2. Roll Call  
Trustees Present:  
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1 - *Absent*  
Mike Teasdale, Area 2  
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3  
Rob Collins, 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  
Dr. Consuelo Williams, Director, County Programs Support & Oversight  
Cathi Nye, Coordinator, Special Populations  
Poul Hanson, Director, Facilities  
Marlo Hartsuyker, Director, Charter Schools Support  
Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant  
Manny Ruiz, Facilities Technician
3. Approval of Agenda  
Mr. Teasdale moved the agenda be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).  
Ms. Ulrich was absent.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**C. HEARINGS**

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1901.  
Ms. Brewer and her daughter were in attendance. Sean Goldman, Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services, was in attendance representing Simi Valley Unified School District. Dr. Flores moved the Board deny Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1901. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**E. PRELIMINARY**

1. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2019  
Mr. Teasdale moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2019 be approved. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. VCSBA Dinner Meeting Flyer and Newsletter, March 4, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.  
Mr. Mantooth noted that Mr. Bates has been invited to this dinner meeting to be recognized for completing 24 years of services to the Ventura County Board of Education. Dr. Lisagor, Mr. Teasdale, Mr. Collins plan to attend.

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

1. Dr. Flores reported that he serves on the Ventura County Committee for School District Organization. VCCSDO will be considering Ventura Unified School District’s request to go from at-large to trustee area elections.
2. Mr. Collins reported that he also attended the VCCSDO meeting. He congratulated Calabasas High School for winning the Academic Decathlon; and he is looking forward to attending the school visitation with Dr. Rice tomorrow.
3. Dr. Teasdale expressed his appreciation of the Academic Decathlon SuperQuiz. The students were very impressive and the event was well organized.
4. Dr. Lisagor and Mr. Teasdale attended today’s Providence Graduation.
5. Dr. Lisagor expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Rice for his many years with VCOE.
6. Dr. Lisagor noted the upcoming academic events - Mock Trial and the Science Fair.

**H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

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

1. ATSI (Additional Targeted Support and Improvement) and CSI (Comprehensive Support and Improvement) are new State acronyms that pertain to assistance for the lowest 5% of schools. These new acronyms have been identified to match with federal acronyms. Mr. Mantooth distributed information on ATSI and CSI. A list of schools in Ventura that qualify for CSI and ATSI was included.

Vista Real Charter High School is identified as DASS (Dashboard Alternative School Status) and is a different type of school. As DASS schools deal with at risk students, even though individual students may be successful, the continual influx of new students affects the schools’ success rate.

At this time, the Board does not have any responsible in this. As clarification and additional information is developed, a report will be brought to the Board.

**I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None.

**J. CONSENT/ACTION**

1. Mileage Reimbursement Claim Form
2. Temporary County Certificates
3. Change Order No. 3 to Viola, Inc. for Camarillo Special Education New Construction: 20 Classroom School Bid 2018-34

Dr. Flores moved the Board approve Consent Items 1-3. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

**K. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION**

1. Programmatic Audit presented by Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School (MATES)

Dr. Rice explained the process utilized for Charter School renewals. MATES Board members, Executive staff, teachers and parents were in attendance.

In accordance with the VCOE Charter School Progress Report Timeline, representatives of MATES presented information required in the annual programmatic audit detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Jennifer Murasky, MATES Board President, noted that the MATES Board has complete trust in the MATES Executive Director and Assistant Director. Both are dedicated leaders. MATES teachers are dedicated, educated and experienced.

Successes for the past five years were reviewed including many awards. Curricular accomplishments include the implementation of the new California State Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards. Each English Language Learner has received an individualized learning plan. RtI program implemented for students nearly meeting or not meeting standards.

Facilities have been improved. Two classrooms were added for art and science specialists. Comprehensive safety plans have been updated and are reviewed; and a running track has been added. Coming soon will be an outdoor classroom and amphitheater.

The Technology Committee has reviews the Technology Plan annually programs are piloted before implementation. Computer carts are available for all classrooms. Computer lab has been upgraded and the website has been updated and translated into multiple languages.

Programmatic improvements include the addition of an Assistant Director, a Physical Education Specialist, a longer day for Kindergarten students, a national school lunch program and implementation of LCAP and LCFF.

Parent and student engagement has been enhanced. Parent and Student surveys are given annually and a Parent Advisory Council has been established. Professional Learning Relationships have been developed with CLU and supportive relationships exist with other charter schools. A music specialist provides programs throughout Conejo Valley, best practices are shared with other schools in Ventura County and at California Distinguished School presentations.

Students continue to perform well academically. MATES have seen consistent growth school wide as well as in student significant subpopulations. Strategies to continue to maintain or improve student achievement have been developed. Student enrollment is consistently at the cap and there is always a wait list. Unfortunately, facilities limit the enrollment to its current level. ADA is consistently above 96%.

Diversity continues to be an issue. As a conversion charter, MATES must maintain a tiered lottery that gives preference to students living in the MATES attendance boundaries. This leaves very few spots open for the next stage of the lottery. MATES continues to utilize a robust outreach plan.

Student enrollment data was reviewed. They do not have a large number of special population students. Staffing figures were reviewed.

Benny Martinez shared information on MATES budget. In the past 5 years, MATES has increased enrollment from 366 to 396 students. The generated income was used to offset some of the rising retirement costs. Staffing has increased by approximately 15%. Clean audit reports have been received.

MATES received a Prop 39 clean energy grant which has allowed them to improve lighting for all classrooms. A cafeteria program was begun in 2017. This program operates in the black. A budget committee of 13 members approves each Interim Report, reviews salary schedule adjustments, capital expenditures, develops fiscal policies, and makes recommendations to the Board. A six year budget plan has been developed for the current and upcoming five years. Expenses include Step and Column adjustments, STRS and PERS costs, and non-salary items have a built in 2% inflation rate. Financials are in good shape with excellent fund balances.

Dr. Flores asked about the lunch program. MATES has a low number of free and reduced lunch students, so this program is funded primarily through user fees.

Mr. Teasdale asked about the 2% inflation rate. Mr. Martinez noted that inflation has been very low since 2014. Building in a 2% inflation rate seems to be the average. The budget will be adjusted when the actual numbers are received.

Student achievement results were noted. 80% meet or exceed standards in English Language Arts; and 78% meet standards in Math. Compare excellently with the State and the local school district and comparable schools in CVUSD. Student subpopulation results were reviewed and again, compare well with comparable schools. MATES students have consistently done well on CAASPP.

LCAP Goals and Progress were reviewed for English Language Learners and socioeconomically disadvantaged learners and students with disabilities.

MATES is considering developing a Personalized Learning Program whereby students could participate in the program at home with their parents. Students would have access to the specialists at their grade level; parents would have access to campus resources such as parent coaching; students would have access to project based learning; and all would be supported. Students who have health issues could access this program; students whose families travel for work; student athletes and actors; and parents who want to teach their children at home. The program would begin with 25 students (potentially 18 from the current student population). The addition of this program would allow MATES to address the wait list.

Mr. Teasdale asked about the comparable school – Ladera School. Westlake Hills is more comparable. He expressed his appreciation for all the work that went into this report. Mr. Teasdale stated that his focus will be on finding ongoing mechanisms whereby best practices can be shared with more than other charter schools.

Dr. Lisagor noted that the Personalized Learning Program would be a material revision to the charter and asked if it would be brought to the Board at a later date? Dr. Rice responded that typically, a program change such as this would be brought to the Board at the time of a renewal request. The Board can choose not to approve this portion of the charter renewal.

The program proposed goes beyond the ADA requirements for a home school program. How would MATES manage this? The funding is the same for independent study ADA as for classroom ADA. The program would generate surplus dollars. This program is not included in the presented budget. Paula Driscoll did review the proposed budget for this program and feels it is sound.

Dr. Flores expressed the need for diversity. He understands the need for growth but he continues to go back to the diversity issue. He appreciates the robust campaign but there needs to be efforts to get the students through the door. This was an observation, not a criticism.

Mr. Collins noted that the Governor will be calling a Charter School Task Force. He asked if the success of the charter school puts the school districts at a disadvantage? Dr. Rice noted that the intent of the Charter School Law was to favor the establishment of Charter Schools and it definitely benefits them. There are much fewer restrictions placed on charter schools.

There is now beginning to be a backlash. Comprehensive schools are complaining that they are not afforded the fewer restrictions. There are charter schools that pilfer high achieving students. In the case of MATES, which is a conversion charter, they must serve the neighborhood boundary students.

MATES has continued to try to increase their enrollment capacity. They have researched putting in portables. The purpose of the Personalized Learning Program is to open MATES to more wait list students. The only way MATES will be comparable, is to increase enrollment. MATES' success is not negatively affecting CVUSD results, as they are educating the same students.

Mr. Teasdale reported that he attended the MATES Winter Art Festival and he was amazed. He would love to see a mechanism of sharing best practices on an ongoing basis. He would also love to see on how the school measures success. What are the results if the schools population was comparable to CVUSD? He appreciates the data that was presented.

Mr. Mantooth noted that the County Office of Education does an excellent job of sharing across the county through our many job alike meeting; perhaps we need to increase the effort to include Charter Schools.

2. PUBLIC HEARING on Renewal of the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School (MATES)

MATES has presented its request for renewal for the Board's consideration pursuant to Education Code 47607. The process and required timeline for reviewing this charter school renewal were adopted on January 28, 2019. Pursuant to Education Code 47605, the Board will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal Petition:

- a. Dr. Lisagor opened the PUBLIC HEARING on Renewal of the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Petition (MATES) at 7:52 p.m. The following members of public addressed the Board:

*Frank LaGuardia, Music Director*

*Julie Steven and Gavin Taylor, MATES Teachers*

*Marnee McClain, MATES Board Member*

*Lainie Donnell, MATES Community Network President (PTA)*

Hearing no additional comments, Dr. Lisagor closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 8:12 p.m.

3. Staff Analysis of Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal Petition

Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605, staff has concluded its review of the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal Petition. The focus of the Charter Renewal review was to determine whether MATES has put in place the necessary legal updates required since the last renewal and has MATES made sufficient academic improvement. Ms. Hartsuyker presented the results.

Included in the explanatory materials is a Memorandum detailing key changes to provide the Board with relevant information related to the MATES renewal petition. Many organizational changes were made to the petition to align with the required elements as outlined in Education Code Section 47605(b)(5)(A)-(O). In addition, some element headings were updated to align with the applicable governing law.

Most significant finding was that there is sufficient evidence demonstrating that MATES has satisfied the charter renewal criteria pursuant to Education Code Section 47607(b), specifically, “the academic performance of the charter school is at least equal to the academic performance of the public schools that the charter school pupils would otherwise have been required to attend, as well as the academic performance of the schools in the school district in which the charter school is located, taking into account the composition of the pupil population that is served at the charter school.”

Other items to note: The Personalized Learning Program is included in Appendix C of the Charter Renewal Petition; Updates to Measurable School Outcomes to align with the LCAP, to include updated state standardized tests, including CAASPP and ELPAC and formative assessments (Appendix E); Admissions Policies and Procedures revised to reflect changes in the law and elimination of children of founders as a preference; also adding the admission process and preferences for the PLP in the event of a public random drawing; and Extended Day for Kindergarten.

The Suspension and Expulsion section of the petition states that students shall have no right to appeal from expulsion and the MATES Board of Directors’ decision shall be final. In the newly revised MOU, the VCBE is given the authority to hear expulsion appeals. MATES agrees to the addition of the expulsion appeal section to be added to the MOU and will be revising the MATES Suspension and Expulsion Policy to reflect this change

Mr. Teasdale asked if the matrix is an assessment of legal compliance. Ms. Hartsuyker explained that the matrix does have the requirements of 47605 embedded within it. All the areas were rated as strong or sufficient. Dr. Flores noted that this matrix has been used as model throughout the State. Dr. Lisagor noted that it has been recognized by CCBE as well.

4. Action to Approve or Deny Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board approve the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal for a period of five years from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2024. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion. After further discussion, the motion passed upon a 4:0 vote, with Dr. Flores, Mr. Collins, Mr. Teasdale, and Dr. Lisagor voting aye.

5. Revised Memorandum of Understanding for Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School (MATES)

Dr. Rice noted that as the Board has chosen to approve the Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School Renewal Petition, revisions are required to update the Memorandum of Understanding. Ms. Hartsuyker reviewed the recommended edits to the MOU. Expulsion appeal language was added and MATES Policy has been revised to match.

***Mr. Teasdale moved the Board extend the meeting to 9:30 p.m. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).***

Mr. Mantooth stated that the Office hopes to keep each MOU as comparable as possible. He cautioned against too many specific changes in respect to the MOU. The scope of this MOU is far reaching and is held as a model across the State. Ms. Hartsuyker noted that each year, she provides guidelines for the programmatic audits which includes areas of requested focus.

Mr. Teasdale requested that data be compared as apples to apples i.e. Lang Ranch. In this instance, MATES data is not comparable to CVUSD data. He would like to see an analysis that includes benchmarking. He would also see language that indicates that best practices will be shared across the county, not only with other charters.

Dr. Rice suggested that Ms. Hartsuyker highlight the request for apples to apples comparisons and best practices sharing in her directions for the Programmatic Audits each year. Mr. Mantooth noted that incorporating more participation by the charters in job alike, would be an excellent opportunity.

Dr. Rice noted that a statement of intent could be incorporated into the MOU which addresses the request that the Charter School join the Charter Network and the Inquiry and Implementation Network.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve the Revised Memorandum of Understanding between Meadows Arts and Technology Elementary Charter School (MATES), the Ventura County Office of Education and the Ventura County Board of Education as presented. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0); with Dr. Flores, Mr. Collins, Mr. Teasdale, and Dr. Lisagor voting aye.

***The Board took a five minute break at 8:45 p.m.***

6. Adoption of Ventura County Office of Education Local Control Accountability Plan (VCOE LCAP) Federal Addendum

Dr. Rice explained that the State is making efforts to combine the Federal required Single School Plan with the State required LCAP. VCOE is required to develop, adopt and annually update a Federal Addendum to the LCAP which addresses how federal Title I, Part A & D; Title II, Part A; and Title III, Part A:



funds are expended. The Federal Addendum is presented tonight.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board approve the VCOE LCAP Federal Addendum as presented. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0), with Dr. Flores, Mr. Collins, Mr. Teasdale, and Dr. Lisagor voting aye.

7. Approval of Revisions to Board Policies required by the Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) Review

Mr. Mantooth noted that VCOE was on cycle for a Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) review. The following areas were reviewed: English Learners, Homeless Education, Compensatory Education and Education Equity. The FPM team has recommended changes to the Board Policies and administrative Regulations listed below, along with the VCOE English Learner Master Plan, have been revised. Upon approval of these revisions by the Board, there will be zero findings reflected for the FPM review. Many of the non-discrimination clauses had to be brought up to current law.

- a. Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6173, Education for Homeless Students
- b. Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6174, Education for English Language Learners
- c. Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6020, Parent Involvement
- d. Board Policy 0410, Nondiscrimination in VCOE Operated Programs
- e. Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.3, Non Discrimination/Harassment/Intimidation or Bullying of Students
- f. VCOE English Learner Master Plan
- g. Administrative Regulation 5125, Student Records

Dr. Flores moved the Board waive the second reading and approve revisions to the Board Policies and the VCOE English Learner Master Plan listed above. Administrative Regulations are attached for the Board's information. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion, and it carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

8. Review of Objectives in Support of Ventura County Board of Education Goals

Mr. Mantooth opened a discussion with the Board of their existing Vision, Mission and Goal Statements. The explanatory materials include the Board's Vision, Mission and Goals and Objectives as well as the Superintendent's Areas of Focus which are a detailed narrative of where he feels the Office is going in the next two years. The areas of importance are really the objectives.

Dr. Lisagor stated his belief is that the Mission, Vision and Objectives are still valid.

Mr. Teasdale suggested that as a new Board does the Board want to have a specific meeting where they review the objectives and identify if there is one or two activities that the Board can focus on. Dr. Flores concurred.

Dr. Lisagor named Ms. Ulrich and Mr. Teasdale to a Subcommittee to to address Goals and Objectives and a process for researching them further. The Subcommittee may want to present a skeleton agenda with outcomes.

Mr. Mantooth suggested a Goals and Objectives Study session. He suggested that the meeting be held during the week in the morning so key staff members could attend.

Mr. Collins suggested the addition of two objectives to increase parent involvement; and to ensure student safety.

Mr. Mantooth noted that Board members should be asked to provide feedback on the topics or areas of focus through the Office. This would avoid Brown Act violations. |

Dr. Flores moved that this item be tabled until a future meeting. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote.

#### **M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

1. Mr. Collins noted that it was Happy Engineering Week.
2. Mr. Teasdale noted that the Social Justice Fund is holding a conference on underserved students on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 8:45 a.m.
3. Dr. Lisagor noted that CSBA Legislative Day will be held in Sacramento on March 12, 2019.

#### **N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Charter School Annual Programmatic Audits:  
Bridges Charter School – March 18, 2019  
River Oaks Academy – April 22, 2019  
Ventura Charter School – March 18, 2019
2. Options for Increasing Funding for Education – *Rob Collins*
3. Report from Subcommittee on Ventura County Board of Education Goals and Objectives Review Process.

#### **O. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Date: Monday, March 18, 2019  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 (*Budget Study Session*)  
Time: 8:00 a.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, April 22, 2019  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Lisagor adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

3/18/19  
Date

  
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Board President

3/20/19  
Date

  
Stan Mantooth, Ex-Officio Secretary and  
Executive Officer of the Board

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