

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 27, 2017**

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 17-13, was called to order by Dr. Ramon Flores, Board President at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2017, 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. Flores, followed by a moment of reflection.
2. Roll Call
Trustees Present:
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1
Marty Bates, Area 2
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3
Dean Kunicki, Area 4 – *Absent*
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 Programs and Services
Misty Key, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal and Administrative Services
Mary Samples, Assistant Superintendent, SELPA
Marlo Hartsuyker, Director, Charter School Support and Oversight
Kenny Loo, Principal, Court and Community Schools
Dr. Tiffany Morse, Executive Director, Career Education
Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant
3. Approval of Agenda
Dr. Flores announced that Agenda Item C.1 had been cancelled. Dr. Lisagor moved the agenda be approved as amended. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance; Dr. Flores, Dr. Lisagor, Ms. Ulrich and Mr. Bates.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1712
CANCELLED.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 23, 2017
Ms. Ulrich moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 23, 2017 be approved. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

F. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

1. Dr. Flores reviewed the Upcoming Events.
2. Mr. Mantooth noted that the CEC Open House will be held on December 6th at 6:00 p.m.
3. Ms. Ulrich reported that the subcommittee on Board goals and objectives has adjourned after completing their recommendations which will be reported tonight.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mantooth presented the following information on the activities of the Office:

1. District Superintendents have approved the proposed plan for the relocation of Triton School and their districts' financial responsibility for the project. The Office is currently in the 30 day comment period for a Mitigated Negative Declaration. No Environmental Impact Report is needed.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

None.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Travel Expense Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates

Mr. Bates moved that the Board approve Consent Items 1 and 2. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS

1. Student Services Programs Update
Dr. Tiffany Morse, Executive Director, CEC, presented updates on recent program developments, achievements and trends at the Career Education Center. There are two main programs – the Career Education Center and VC Innovates.

The goal of VC Innovates is to connect schools with community colleges and to connect schools with careers. Since inception, there are 74 new CTE teachers and 68 tenured teachers have added CTE authorizations. Additionally, 154 High School Pathways and 115 Middle School exploratory programs have been created. The number of students earning college credit in high school has increased for 446 to 2141.

Essential Career Connections include career pathways. Since 2014, the number of student participating in career connections has increased from 4000 to 16,144; business partnerships have increased to 280; and over 330 field trips have been offered. Countywide community events organized by VC Innovates have been attended by over 1,320 participants. Twenty-two Entrée to Employment dinners have been held with over 2,300 participants. Hackathon will be held this weekend (overnight event) with over 80 professionals participating. Miniversities are offered for teachers where professionals come and offer trainings with industry certification for teachers.

Grant funding by district was reviewed. This is the final year of the Career Pathways Trust Grant and year 2 of 3 for the CTEIG. Carryforward funds will be used to maintain both programs through 2018-19.

The Career Education Center (CEC) provides capstone courses for district CTE pathways and provides internships for all students in Capstone courses. The number of students served and the number of programs offered have almost doubled since 2014. Efforts continue to improve the CEC facilities including the addition of a Mechatronics space. A partnership with Harbor Freight Tools for Schools will provide paid internships for up to 60 students over the summer. The enrollment process for all high schools is being refined and the quality of internships continues to improve.

Dr. Lisagor questioned the future of the program after 2019. Dr. Morse responded that the grant funding was dedicated to building capacity and pathways. While there is currently no plans for dedicated CTE funding from the State after 2018, teachers were not hired or paid for with grant funds so their work can be sustained. What will not be able to be provided will be things like field trips. Legislation continues to be proposed that would provide ongoing state funding. Dr. Rice noted that the number of support positions for the grant will be reduced. Districts will be looked to for support. LCAP could also provide some funding based on the value added of a-g coursework in CEC.

Kenny Loo, Principal, Court and Community Schools, presented an update on Gateway Community School, including their link to the CEC. 60% of all Gateway students last year participated in at least 1 CEC course (this met the LCAP Goal). This year, 64% of students are participating in at least 1 CEC course. This number will continue to climb. Courses currently offered are: Horticulture, Emergency Medical Response, Cosmetology, Small Business & Screen printing, and Senior Seminar. Two full time employment specialists work with seniors on career preparation, resume preparation, career planning. An entrée liaison finds real world projects for students. These additional resources are extremely beneficial.

School Climate: Student suspensions have decreased by 80% and Gateway continues to see the positive results with the implementation of CHAMPS, Restorative Justice, and Trauma Informed Care and Alternative means of correction. Gateway has been designated as a Safe & Civil Schools Visitation Site. School activities – intramurals, flag football, leadership class, celebrations activities and field trips are offered.

Student Learning. Curriculum and Instruction continues to provide support at Gateway. Project based learning including experimentation and inquiry is utilized. Each teacher provides at least one project based learning activity. Students are encouraged to present and exhibit their work.

Gateway continues to look for ways continue to engage families with Back to School nights, family nights, emergency communication cards distributed often, phone calls translated from English to Spanish and vice versa. School site council meetings have been held.

Continuous Improvement. Gateway staff continually look at how can they approach students in ways that are proactive, positive and instructional, and how to create more meaningful and relevant learning opportunities. The facilities are continually updated so the students know that they are attending a quality facility.

Ms. Ulrich noted that the Wolverine Café is incredible. Dr. Flores noted that he appreciates all of the events that are held and thanked the school for continuing to provide invitations to events. Dr. Rice and Mr. Mantooth noted how proud they are of Mr. Loo's and Dr. Morse's leadership in these two programs.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Annual Programmatic Audit Presentation by Ventura Charter School of Global Arts and Education (Ventura Charter School – VCS)

Marlo Hartsuyker introduced presenters from Ventura Charter School (VCS) including: Mary Galvin, Director of Operations; Lisa Hildebrand, Director of Education; Board members; and Benny Martinez, Finance.

Enrollment is currently 414 + 21 homeschool students. 124 students on the waitlist. Attendance is approximately 96%. Student demographics were compared to VUSD and the County. Outreach efforts for diversity were reviewed. 98% of new students come to the school from word of mouth so parents are encouraged to share the information about the school.

Staffing was reviewed. VCS employs 18 full time and 4 part time highly qualified teachers, along with paraeducators. Support staff has been increased.

Budget. Revenue projections are based on enrollment of 413 students. were reviewed. This year a .76 fte special education teacher and a .65 fte intervention teacher were added. Ending fund balances reflect deficit spending in 18-19 and 19-20 of \$128,000. There is a plan to eliminate the deficit spending. Annually, VCS underspends the budget by approximately \$110,000. The home school / independent study program can increase enrollment which would provide \$200,000 in additional revenue. Class sizes could be increased to increase revenue. In future years, VCS must increase revenue, decrease expenditures or utilize reserves. Mr. Martinez is confident VCS will get the budget back into balance.

Dr. Lisagor questioned the decrease in independent study enrollment. Ms. Galvin reported that last year independent study test scores were not where VCS would want, and many parents indicated they were not planning to teach the Common Core. The decision was made to exclude some students, to reduce the program to K-5 only, and to rebuild the program. VCS is confident that as the program is revamped the enrollment will increase.

Facilities and Growth. VCS hopes to address facility needs this spring in order to expand programs. No additional classrooms can be added due to the capacity of the local utilities. Prop 51 facilities grant was applied for.

Dashboard results were reviewed. English Learner Progress is not reported because there are too few students. Chronic absenteeism is not yet active.

CAASPP Scores were reviewed. Eighth graders are testing at a high level with 75% of students meeting or exceeding standards in ELA and Math. Computers are provided to any students in need. VCS does not provide connectivity as the sources would need to be protected; however, information on low cost sources is provided. Test scores were compared to local Elementary schools – Poinsettia and Cabrillo – and the results are similar. Results for other subgroups were also reviewed.

VCS has focused their efforts on socio-economically disadvantaged students. A new .6 fte teacher was hired primarily to work with reading skills. Plans for ELD students have been reviewed. A second learning center was opened. Two special education classrooms were added. Professional development of 25 hours in house training in expeditionary learning has been provided for teachers.

LCAP Goals were reviewed. Goal 1, Improve student achievement; Goal 2, Implement project based learning; and Goal 3, Create a safe, welcoming environment for students and families.

Parent survey results were reviewed. Parent Involvement is robust. Only 68% of parents agreed that the school met their students' needs in Science. In response, VCS is piloting NGSS curriculum, using student data sheets at parent conferences, and adding expected reading levels to report cards. Student survey results were also reviewed.

Ms. Ulrich expressed her support for the school taking a step back from the Independent Study program. She also noted the increased achievement in Math.

Dr. Flores expressed his appreciation for their efforts to increase ethnicity.

2. Annual Programmatic Audit Presentation by River Oaks Academy (ROA)
Marlo Hartsuyker introduced presenters from River Oaks Academy (ROA) including: Claudia Weintraub, Director; and many teachers and Board members.

ROA operates two resource centers – one in Westlake and one in Oxnard. No suspensions / expulsions or complaints. 98.5% ADA. Enrollment has increased to 265. 21% of students are socio-economically disadvantaged. This is the largest subgroup. 11% of students receive special education services.

Oxnard Resource Center was opened in February. The center is open daily and two days of enrichment classes/workshops in ELA and Math are offered. Much of the staff is bilingual. 18% of the students are special education. 3 math tutors are provided. Science labs are on site. Enrollment continues to grow based on outreach efforts. The Hispanic population at Westlake has grown to 23%; at the Oxnard Center the Hispanic population is 47%. The website is fully translated and a variety of events are attended to promote the program.

Board consists of 5 Board members – 3 community board members and 2 parent board members. Board Retreats are held annually.

Benny Martinez reviewed the financial data. Enrollment projections and revenues are based on 262 students this year, 240 students next year and 262 in 2019-20. For the past four years, enrollment has grown by 17%. The Oxnard Resource Center was projected at 47 students. The 17-18 budget was based on 55 students but there are currently 71 students enrolled. State revenue of \$150,000 will be added from state grant funds. Expenses include step and column increases. 2018-19 and 19-20 show a small amount of deficit spending. It would only take 4-15 students to remove this deficit.

Dr. Lisagor noted an attrition rate of approximately 20 students. Mr. Martinez noted that there is usually new enrollment each year in the 2nd and 3rd quarters.

LCAP Goals were reviewed. Goal 1, All teachers are appropriately assigned; Goal 2, School facilities in good repair; Goal 3, Improve Math and ELA scores; and Goal 4, Expand College and career readiness. Math tutors have been hired and are sent to the student homes. Laptop loaner program has begun.

Methods of assessment were reviewed. All 11th graders are required to take a Math interim assessment. Math interventions include math tutors on wheels, daily math labs and training for parents, and additional teacher training.

Dashboard results were reviewed. 2017 reflects increases in Math and ELA scores. Specialized math intervention curriculum has been implemented. CAASPP Math Scores show the effect of 11th grade students were not required to take a third year of Math. This will be changed in future years. Weekly math labs have been increased and an online math programs have been added.

ELA scores continue to be stable. Students entering ROA are often already academically credit deficient. 48% of Oxnard students are scoring at level 1 – not meeting requirements. Strategies are continually reviewed.

High School Guidance Counselor. 100% of high school seniors graduate each year. Over 50 a-g courses are offered with concurrent enrollment opportunities. PSAT and PSAT 10 are offered. Students regularly meet the college level requirements. SAT is offered on site. College and career planning is offered. Families are assisted in completing the FAFSA.

VC Innovates has offered 20 students the opportunity to enroll in CEC courses. A work experience program is offered. College and career pathway grant. Six pathways are offered at ROA – Hospitality, Legal and Networking. College and career seminar is a required course for all students.

Ms. Ulrich asked about the career pathway grant. Career education instructors are three existing teachers. This grant will continue for one more year. The program will be sustained after the end of the grant.

Dr. Flores requested additional data next year including comparisons to Oxnard Elementary and Oxnard High School.

3. Phoenix Airport School Modernization Phase III: Classrooms, All Remaining Work Bid Award

Ms. Key reviewed results from the bid for the 2017-20 Phoenix Airport School Modernization Phase III efforts. Ms. Ulrich questioned whether VCOE has worked with United Construction previously and if they are a local company. Ms. Key will email the Board with a response.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board award Bid 2017-20 Phoenix Airport School Modernization Phase III: Classrooms, All Remaining Work project to United Construction & Landscape for a total award amount of \$372,000. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

4. Revised Objectives in Support of Ventura County Board of Education Goals

Dr. Flores and Ms. Ulrich presented proposed revisions to the Objectives in support of County Board of Education goals. Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve the proposed revisions. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (4:0).

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Ms. Ulrich indicated that she is looking forward to the CSBA Conference.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Charter School Annual Programmatic Audits:
Bridges Charter School - *January, 2018*
2. Joint meeting with VCCCD (*January – March, 2018*)

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: Monday, December 11, 2017
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board

P. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Flores adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Approved by Board Action on 12/11/17.

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