

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
September 28, 2020**

**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 20-11, was called to order by Dr. Ramon Flores, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2020, via ZOOM. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Dr. Flores and followed by a moment of reflection.
2. Roll Call  
Trustees Present:  
Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5  
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1  
Mike Teasdale, Area 2  
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3  
Rob Collins, Area 4 – *Experienced technical difficulties*  
  
VCOE Personnel Present:  
Stanley C. Mantooth, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools and Ex-Officio Secretary and Executive Officer of the Board  
Dr. Cesar Morales, Deputy Superintendent, Student Services  
Dr. Antonio Castro, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services  
Misty Key, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal & Administrative Services  
Dr. Consuelo Williams, County Programs Support & Accountability  
Holly Minear, Executive Director, Special Education  
Michelle Harding, Program Specialist, Special Education  
Dana Thompson, Director, Educator Support and Effectiveness, Ed Technology  
Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant  
  
Approval of Agenda  
Dr. Lisagor moved that agenda be approved. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**C. HEARINGS**

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 20-07 (Angie Mendoza, Translator)  
The parent, Ms. Lopez, and Dr. Marlene Batista, Oxnard School District, participated. Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 20-07. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**E. PRELIMINARY**

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of August 24, 2020.  
Mr. Teasdale moved the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 24, 2020 be approved. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email and attachment from Jacob Lesner-Buxton, dated September 23, 2020.  
Mr. Mantooth noted that this letter arrived after the Board agenda was finalized. A resolution will be drafted on behalf of the County Office of Education.

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

1. Ms. Ulrich stated that the CCBE Virtual Conference was very successful. Mr. Teasdale’s name has been moved forward in the nomination process for CCBE Vice-President.
2. Mr. Teasdale reported that he took part in the CCBE Virtual Conference and it was extremely well done.
3. Dr. Lisagor stated that he found two or three of the CCBE Virtual Conference sessions very meaningful.
4. Dr. Flores felt the engagement and interactions with other Trustees at the CCBE Virtual Conference was very well done. Dr. Flores reported that he and Mr. Teasdale participated at a Chamber of Commerce event where Mr. Teasdale presented on Prop 15 and handled all the questions with grace.
5. Dr. Flores commended the Office on the current edition of Focus on Education, “Road to Re-Opening Ventura County Schools”. It is excellent. VCOE will have a large role to play with communication with parents as this moves forward.

**H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

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

1. Notice from CDE stating that the VCOE Budget has been approved.
2. Upcoming Resolutions for October including: National Bullying Prevention Month; October 21<sup>st</sup> as Unity Day; and Disability History Week as requested by student, Yueng Huan. These resolutions will be completed by VCOE with the Board’s support.

**I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

1. Mr. Teasdale noted the benefits of Proposition 15 for our schools and communities. On October 9, 2020, there will be a virtual panel discussion on the topic with school teachers and community members participating.

2. Ms. Ulrich shared her disappointment that the Governor, in this age of COVID-19, has not extended hold harmless benefits to school districts regarding liabilities.

## **J. CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS**

1. Temporary County Certificates
2. Resolution No. 20-06, Gann Limit Calculation for 2019-20 and Estimated Limit for 2020-21
3. Change Order No. 20 to Viola, Inc. for Camarillo Special Education New Construction: 20 Classroom School Bid 2018-34

Mr. Teasdale asked for an explanation of the Gann Limit (Consent Item 2). Ms. Key explained that the Gann Limit refers to the limit on local property taxes received for funding. This was more relevant to the old revenue limit formula of funding, prior to LCFF, but there is still an annual requirement for the Office to calculate and report the Gann Limit to the Board. VCOE has never reached or exceeded the Gann limit.

Mr. Teasdale asked about the contract with Viola (Consent Item 3). Is there an upper limit for these change orders?

Ms. Key responded that there is no upper limit so long as there are appropriations. There is still room in the total estimated construction costs of \$22 million, although this amount also includes furniture. Dr. Flores noted that the original plans were developed and created almost 10 years ago. Building codes have changed significantly in that time period.

Mr. Teasdale moved Consent Items 1-3 be approved. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

## **K. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

## **L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION**

1. PUBLIC HEARING and Adoption of Resolution 20-05 Regarding Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials, and Certification of Provision of Standards-Aligned Instructional :
  - a. Dr. Flores opened the PUBLIC HEARING on Resolution 20-05 regarding Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials per Education Code Section 60119 and 60422(b) at 6:51 p.m. Hearing no public comments, Dr. Flores closed the public hearing at 6:52 p.m.

Dr. Morales reported that VCOE has met all of the requirements for sufficiency of instructional materials and VCOE is in full compliance.

Mr. Teasdale noted that during the LCFF surveys, parents requested greater access to materials. Is this part of this item?

Dr. Morales responded that there may be a request for outside materials that are more personalized; but as it relates to State required materials, VCOE has provided sufficient materials.

- b. Dr. Lisagor moved the Board adopt Resolution 20-05 regarding Sufficiency/Insufficiency of Instructional Materials, and the accompanying Positive Certification of Provision of Standards-Aligned Instructional Materials. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

2. Adoption of the VCOE Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan

Dr. Morales introduced Dr. Williams stating that she has done an exceptional job of pooling VCOE leaders and gathering information on programs. Dr. Williams reported that VCOE has met all the requirements of building the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. Five stakeholder meetings were held. Parents requested training for Spanish speaking parents. Updates include: Page 24 details the training opportunities. Page 26 show funds allocated to teachers and paraeducators for ELD training. Pages 7-14 include information on the COVID-19 instructional plans. Instructional minutes requirements were included at the request of Ms. Ulrich. The Learning Continuity Plan was presented at a public hearing for review and comment and is now presented for adoption.

Ms. Ulrich moved the Board adopt the VCOE Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan as presented. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

3. Approval of Revisions to VCOE English Learner Master Plan

Dr. Williams thanked Holly Minear, Michelle Harding and Cathi Nye for their work on the VCOE English Learner Master Plan. On February 19, 2019, the VCOE English Learner Master Plan was adopted. The Plan has recently been revised to include updates based on the 2020-21 Federal Program Monitoring English Learner Program Instrument.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board approve revisions to the VCOE English Learner Master Plan as presented. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

4. Adoption of 2020-21 Courses of Study for Court and Community Schools and Special Education

Michelle Harding has led a team which has reviewed all the course of study requirements and refined them with up to date standards. Changes include: course codes aligned with CalPads; updated textbooks to align with recent adoptions; distance learning added as an optional format of instruction; support for English Learners and students who receive special education services; new

APEX courses; new one- and two-year CEC courses for special education. The Courses of Study will continue to be updated, as Science textbooks will be piloted this year.

Mr. Teasdale asked about the Career Education introduction course.  
Dr. Morales noted that this course is offered as an overview of CEC.

Dr. Flores was very pleased to see that VCOE offers Math courses as high as Pre-Calculus and that high expectations are held for our students.

Ms. Ulrich asked about re-opening schools. Will CEC courses resume and when? Dr. Morales noted that students are attending virtual CEC courses now. The hands-on learning will have to come after COVID regulations are relaxed, but students are gaining a basic understanding through virtual classes. Ms. Arnold recently provided a Statewide training on CEC courses and how the courses are being offered at VCOE. Mr. Mantooth noted that the CEC is still offering a rich component of learning.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board adopt the 2020-21 Courses of Study for Court and Community Schools and Special Education as presented. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

5. Approval of Revisions to Board Policy 5141.52, Suicide Prevention  
Holly Minear presented revisions to Board Policy 5141.52, Suicide Prevention. In 2019, California passed a law requiring all school districts in California that serve students kindergarten to grade 6 to adopt a policy on suicide prevention for the 2020-21 school year. The Administrative Regulation was updated to include positive intervention and student identification cards that include national suicide prevention phone numbers. Staff received their annual training on suicide prevention at the start of the school year.

Ms. Ulrich moved the Board waive the second reading and approve revisions to Board Policy 5141.52, Suicide Prevention. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

Administrative Regulation 5141.52 was included in the explanatory materials for the Board's information.

6. Adoption of Resolution 20-07 in Support of Ethnic Studies  
The following members of the public spoke in support of this item:  
*Veronica Valdez, past bilingual teacher and college instructor of Ethnic Studies*

Dr. Flores reported that based on the current state of our society, he convened a subcommittee to develop a resolution to support the incorporation of Ethnic Studies at all grade levels.

Resolution 20-07 is a reflection of the work that needs to be done to move forward. This resolution identifies support for AB 331 (Medina) which makes Ethnic Studies a requirement at the high school and community college levels.

Mr. Teasdale noted the importance of Ethnic Studies and the benefits of learning a common inclusive history of our country. This is an important element to include in all education – at every grade level.

Ms. Ulrich thanked the subcommittee for their work. How would VCOE implement this? Would the curriculum be changed at each grade level? What would the Board’s role be in this area?

Dr. Flores stated that the subcommittee tried to find the balance in crafting a resolution that would be supportive rather than being prescriptive; but that would also advocate for the inclusion of Ethnic Studies as a graduation requirement.

Mr. Mantooth noted that this resolution will be shared with all the school districts. The County Board’s leadership has weight and impact. The resolution is a guide and a mandate to continue the work that educators already know must be done.

Dr. Morales noted that in our role as a County Office of Education, it was important that the statement be declarative. California is taking an active role in this as well and the County Office is trying to be part of the movement. All districts are working on this, and within VCOE, support structures are being set up that will support districts in this work. It is important that students learn to move words to action.

Mr. Teasdale noted that the resolution includes a reference to hold an annual celebration of the diversity of others and actions that promote our learning from the heritage of culture of others.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board adopt Resolution 20-07, in Support of Ethnic Studies. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion; and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (4:0).

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

1. Ms. Ulrich commended staff on Instructional Materials report. She wonders how this item will change in the next decade. Will sufficiency include technology equipment? There is a lot of change in education right now and thanked everyone at the County Office for the work they do.
2. Mr. Teasdale joined in thanking the teachers and administrators for the work they are doing. One of the challenges of distance learning is getting equipment such as keyboards and hearing aids to low income students. He hopes that VCOE has identified these needs and possible challenges students are experiencing.

3. Dr. Flores thanked the Board for their professionalism during the appeal hearing and commended the district for their willingness to address the issue and accept the decision of the Board.

**N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**O. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Date: Monday, October 26, 2020  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: ZOOM or 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, November 23, 2020  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: ZOOM or 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, December 14, 2020  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Location: ZOOM or 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo  
Purpose: Annual Organizational Meeting

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

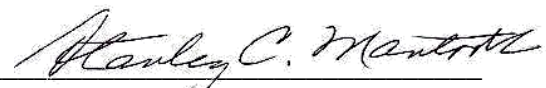
Dr. Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

**Minutes Approved by Board Action on 10/26/20.**

October 26, 2020  
Date

  
Dr. Ramon Flores, Board President

October 26, 2020  
Date

  
Stan Mantooth, 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.*