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 20-02, was called to order by Dr. Ramon Flores, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 24, 2020, 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 and followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call
   Trustees Present:
   Rachel Ulrich, Area 1
   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
   Misty Key, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal and Administrative Services
   Dr. Antonio Castro, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
   Dr. Cesar Morales, Associate Superintendent, Student Services
   Emily Mostovoy-Luna, Assistant Superintendent, SELPA
   Lisa Cline, Executive Director, Internal Business
   David Fateh, Director, Facilities
   Marlo Hartsuyker, Director, Charter School Support
   Nancy Akkerman, Senior Executive Assistant
   Bryan Rezo, Conference Facilities Technician

3. Approval of Agenda
   Dr. Lisagor moved the agenda be approved. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS
   The following members of the Public addressed the Board in support of River Oaks Academy:

   Jack Barr, student
   Teresa Le, parent
   Ty Le, 4th grade student
   Francisca Cruz, parent
C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 2003

Mr. Larry Storey, parent, was in attendance. Dr. Hani Youssef, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, was in attendance representing Simi Valley Unified School District. Mr. Storey was provided with the opportunity to share his reasons for requesting his son be released from the Simi Valley Unified School District in order to apply for attendance in the Conejo Valley Unified School District. Dr. Youssef was provided with the opportunity to present the position of the Simi Valley Unified School District.

Following questions and discussion, Mr. Collins moved the Board deny Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 2003. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion. The motion carried upon a unanimous vote of the Board (5:0).

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

None.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Invitation to March 9 VCSBA Dinner Meeting. Newsletter available online at: https://conta.cc/39cPUDV.

G. PRESIDENT’S AND BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS

1. Dr. Flores noted the upcoming events. Please notify Ms. Akkerman if you plan to attend. Dr. Flores will attend the Super Quiz.

2. Mr. Collins commented that he recently had a speaker address his college class on the Census and the impact of undercounting on the state of California. California is historically undercounted due to our many hard to reach communities, i.e. homeless communities, migrant communities; etc. Mr. Collins stated that the Census is looking for workers and they can be paid up to $25 per hour.

3. Dr. Lisagor reported that he recently visited Vista Real Charter High Schools, Learning Center in Camarillo. He also went to Sacramento to hear a presentation on the LCAP. It was very interesting. It is a very complicated issue.

4. Mr. Teasdale attended a Providence graduation. The determination of the students is inspiring.

5. Ms. Ulrich will be attending the VCSBA dinner on March 9th. The presentation will be on vaping. She and Dr. Flores attended the ground breaking ceremony for the newest high school in Oxnard which is scheduled to open in 2022.

H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

1. Mr. Mantooth recognized Dr. Morales who arrived at the meeting from the Mock Trial. Mock Trial pins will be distributed to Board members when they arrive.
I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT
1. Ms. Ulrich noted that Jackie Moran just sent out the newest bills that are in process.

2. Mr. Teasdale attended a training on Schools and Communities First in Los Angeles. All those interested are encouraged to attend further training. Information on additional training workshop opportunities will be distributed in April.

J. CONSENT/ACTION
1. Mileage Reimbursement Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates

Ms. Ulrich asked how many more change orders the Board should anticipate receiving as construction is nearing completion. Ms. Key responded that the Board should anticipate approximately 4 more. The Office does not anticipate exceeding the allocated funds for the final construction.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve Consent Items 1-3. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS
None.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION
1. Acknowledgement of Receipt and Adoption of Timeline for Review of Renewal of the Bridges Charter Petition
Ms. Hartsuyker acknowledged the many members of the public attending the meeting. At the next meeting in March, Bridges will be given the opportunity to present their programmatic audit and renewal petition, and staff will present their findings. The Board will take action in March or April. Kelly Simon, Director, Board members, and representatives from Bridges Charter School were introduced. Paper copies of the petition were distributed to all Board members. Appendices were available if requested.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board acknowledge receipt of the Renewal Request of Bridges Charter School and adopt the proposed timeline. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and it passed upon a unanimous vote of those in attendance (5:0).

2. Programmatic Audit and Renewal presented by River Oaks Academy Charter School
The programmatic audit is presented in alignment with Education Code 47607. Ms. Hartsuyker introduced members of the River Oaks Academy Board and Claudia Weintraub, Director.
Ms. Weintraub presented the annual programmatic audit detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding. A five year review at a glance was presented. Highlights include Career pathways have been developed and enrollment has increased. A second learning center was added. A rigorous, robust program is offered.

Students self-select to attend ROA. Many are credit deficient, were bullied, have higher social emotional needs, or need flexibility in their schedule in order to train or work. The mobility rate is 50% which decreases the ability to see the impact ROA is having a specific students.

Enrollment Trends were reviewed. Enrollment has grown from 90 students in 2010 to the current 309. Ethnicity data trends were reviewed. ROA has experienced an increase in their percentage of Hispanic students. Comparison data for Low Income / Hispanic / SpecEd was presented. ROA continues to put great effort into outreach efforts throughout the County. They attend Street Fairs and other community events, distribute materials to preschool centers, markets, and bilingual tours are offered.

Staff includes 21 teachers five of whom are bilingual. A high school guidance counselor, special education staff, and a math specialist offer continued support to parents. Staff is hardworking and passionate about the students’ success. ROA staff are dedicated to ensuring that all students reach their full potential.

Benny Martinez presented information on the ROA budget. The enrollment is 2015-16 was 200 students. Certificated staff has increased 45% in 5 years; classified staff has increased 35%. ROA has a Budget Committee comprised of seven people. They meet three times a year to discuss LCAP, facility needs, reserves, fiscal policies. Mr. Martinez reviewed ROAs first interim budget snapshot. No additional revisions will be made until after the May Budget Revision. ROA has a strong budget with strong reserves. Capital expenditures have been depreciated and reported.

Mr. Teasdale noted that enrollment is increasing 10%, with expenses increasing 18%. Do they anticipate any issues? Mr. Martinez responded that the do not. ROA will be opening a new facility which will be on Lombard Street between Rice and Gonzales.

Schoolwide Learner Outcomes and School Goals were reviewed – that students meet or make academic progress towards the state standards in all subjects as measured by CAASPP, MobyMax and IXL (Local Assessments). 98% of students are tested. College readiness assessments are also given.

ELA and Math results were reviewed based on length of student enrollment were reviewed based on years of attendance. In ELA, students show a 5% increase per year. Students who stay enrolled at ROA show dramatic increases in the met and exceeded categories. Students meeting and exceeding standards continues to grow.
Math continues to be an area of focus. One of the major factors is the student high mobility rate. Positive results are being seen. Students and parents are taking advantage of daily math labs. A math lounge continues. Staff attends regular professional development opportunities is math.

The 2019 Dashboard results were reviewed. Results show a decline in absenteeism, suspension rate has been maintained, and graduation rate has increased.

There are two legal thresholds for Charter School Renewal; the first being that students show demonstrated academic increase over time. This has been shown. The second threshold is that students must perform at or above neighborhood districts. Schools were identified for comparison. ROA scores higher than all in ELA. In Elementary Schools; ROA continues to scores higher. In Math, ROA scores higher than all schools except Redwood Middle School.

LCAP Goals were reviewed.
Goal #1 – Staff Assignments. This goal was met.
Goal #2 – Facilities and Maintenance. This goal was met
Goal #3 – Students have access to CSS aligned materials and will receive Math/ELA support. This goal is ongoing
Goal #4 – Continue to expand College and Career opportunities. This goal is ongoing.

Parent Involvement continues to be a focus. Two parents serve on the ROA Board as well as on various Advisory Committees. Parents participated in the renewal process.

High School Program at ROA. Currently ROA has 115 high school students. Three career pathways have been developed. Over 150 A-G courses are provided (some through concurrent enrollment). Ongoing test prep is given. Work experience courses are offered. Four year plans are developed. College information sessions are offered. ROA students perform well in SAT. Students are well prepared for college and careers.

ROA offers a robust, academically rigorous program. Student and parent relationships are nourished. Decision making is data driven. Personalized learning approach is provided.

Mr. Collins thanked ROA for the presentation and asked about the personalized learning design. How does ROA connect to learn a student’s passion? Ms. Weintraub noted that sometimes the students know and other times teachers have to encourage them to try new things.

Mr. Collins asked if ROA shares best practices with other districts? ROA has talked with CVUSD but it isn’t always received.
Mr. Collins noted that ROA should continue to work to increase from the Hispanic community. ROA is beginning to enjoy benefits from word of mouth. Students can attend the Oxnard campus two hours per day. This has helped.

Dr. Lisagor stated his appreciation for the data which shows the 1-2-3 year growth. He asked if ROA does exit interviews to see why students are leaving. Last year 13% went to another charter; 47% returned to public school; and some actually moved. ROA loses 150 students per year, but enrollment continues to grow. Dr. Lisagor noted that he appreciates the culture that ROA has created. It’s about the people and students.

Ms. Ulrich stated that she appreciates that data was broken down for Oxnard and Westlake and the increase in Hispanic enrollment to 58%.

Mr. Teasdale noted that the ROA is obviously meeting a need in the community. The measurement of progress was insightful. Is there a limit to whom a personalized learning program can be offered to? Do you foresee needing to adjust the program like you have done in Oxnard to continue to increase enrollment. As a staff, ROA is trying to make changes to support the students. The enrollment is limited to how many students ROA can have and still offer the quality individualized program.

The summer program came from the knowledge that students needed somewhere to go during the summer. ROA continues to try to adapt the program to meet student needs.

Mr. Teasdale asked how ROA measures impact with a 50% new student rate each year. Does Moby Max do a better job of measuring the student progress in the short term? Ms. Weintraub responded that assessments are given three times a year, utilizing Moby Max and IXL. CAASPP is a once a year measurement. Students come to them broken so the growth may not be immediately measureable.

Dr. Flores thanked ROA for disaggregating the results by site. He indicated that he appreciates the efforts of charter schools to reach out to the Hispanic community. Dr. Flores asked what the criteria for enrollment is. Ms. Weintraub noted that enrollment is continuous and no one is turned away. This is the time of year when enrollment is closed as testing is approaching but individuals are always accepted.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING on Renewal of the River Oaks Academy Charter School**

River Oaks Academy 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 27, 2020. Pursuant to Education Code 47605, the Board will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition.
Dr. Flores opened the PUBLIC HEARING on River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition at 7:50 p.m. The following members of the public addressed the Board.

Jacqueline Gonzalez, teacher at ROA.
Brandon Cebollos, 9th grader at ROA.
Kathy Jackson, teacher at ROA.
Richard Urias, Board member at ROA.
Jyazmine Queen, 11th grader at ROA.
Lynda Queen, parent at ROA.

Hearing no further comments, Dr. Flores closed the PUBLIC HEARING at 8:06 p.m.

4. Staff Analysis of River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition
Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605, staff performed its review of the River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition and presented their findings at this meeting. Ms. Hartsuyker noted the renewal petition was reviewed in accordance with EC47605. Multiple staff members took part in the process. There were 6 areas where agreed upon modifications to the petition were requested. These areas and modifications are detailed on pages 9-10 of the staff findings. Area 1 was a typo. Areas 2-3 involve special education and Areas 4-6 are changes needed in Curriculum.

The most important area for authorizers to consider is academic growth which has been demonstrated by ROA. Independent study programs can be extremely hard to analyze. ROA does outperform Monte Vista, another independent study program in the area. Ms. Hartsuyker and staff believe that ROA has met the criteria for successful renewal.

Mr. Teasdale noted the 5th alternative which address non-dashboard schools. ROA does not meet the percentage of students to qualify for this alternative review status.

Mr. Mantooth noted that the checklist that staff uses has become a model throughout the State. Test scores are important but that pales in comparison to having contact and a successful education plan.

5. Action to Approve or Deny River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition
Dr. Lisagor moved the Board approve the River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition with the term of the renewal being from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2025. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

6. Revised Memorandum of Understanding for River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition
Based on the Board’s action to approve the River Oaks Academy Charter School Renewal Petition, revisions are required to update the Memorandum of Understanding. Ms. Hartsuyker noted that this MOU aligns with the changes that
were made to other MOUs. Insurance was updated, testing was updated, suspension and expulsion requirements were changed, and the programmatic audit was changed to another location in the MOU.

Mr. Teasdale moved the Board approve the Revised Memorandum of Understanding between River Oaks Academy, the Ventura County Office of Education and the Ventura County Board of Education as presented. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

7. **Budget Revision #2**

Ms. Key presented Budget Revision #2. Minor changes have been made since the First Interim Report. Page 3 shows that the deficit is shrinking; with the gap being closed by $400-$500,000. The amount of revenue has been confirmed. We still plan on deficit spending.

Mr. Teasdale asked about the contracts and what they were for. Ms. Key noted that the contracts are with local districts and state contracts and grant award letters.

Ms. Ulrich moved the Board approve Budget Revision #2 as presented. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

8. **Second Interim Report**

The Second Interim Report includes the same information as found in Budget Revision #2, but on State required forms. The report includes a positive certification. Specific pages were noted.

Page 4 – ADA. COEs are funded later in the year than districts are. Our funding is based on annual attendance.

Page 5 – Cashflow Worksheet is new. Our cashflow projections are much better.

Page 23 – Summary of General Fund. Revenue that has changed is shown are the far right. Other local revenues are local fee for service contracts (workshop revenues, lots of different entities). Deficit is now only $500,000.

Page 65 – Multi year projections. Unrestricted funds come in and can be spent on any educational purpose. This is where there will be significant challenges on the multi-year projections. Our LCFF is $21.3 million across all years, while costs continue to increase. VCOE will have to increase revenue or reduce expenditures. In the year 2021-22, the projections show VCOE deficit spending by $1 million.

Page 67 – Multiyear projections – Restricted funds. A reduction in CEC grant of $4 million is projected. Remaining grant funds will be spent in 19-20. In 20-21, expenditures will need to be reduced by $4 million. We have known this was coming. The grants were to be a transition grant for full funding of LCFF. Now that districts are fully funded on LCFF, districts are expected to use their dollars
on Career Education. Another changing dynamic is grants are being given out to a wider base of LEAs, so everyone is getting a little less. Dr. Morales and his team are working hard to identify what programs we can offer next year.

There will be an opportunity for districts to buy back some services. The medical assistant program and autobody are county leading programs that the districts may want to purchase. It will be a two month process to determine what districts will want to buy back and then staffing will be determined. The students who attend CEC are district students and we do not serve them for the full day. This issue will be addressed further during the budget study sessions.

Dr. Lisagor moved the Board acknowledge review of the Second Interim Report with the Superintendent’s positive certification. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0).

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS
None.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
1. Charter School Programmatic Audits and Renewal Requests
   Bridges Charter School – February/March 2020
   Vista Real Charter School – March/April 2020
2. Training on New Charter School Legislation - May, 2020

O. FUTURE MEETINGS
Date: Monday, March 23, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Friday, April 24, 2020 (Budget Study Session)
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

P. ADJOURNMENT
Dr. Flores adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.
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.