

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

October 3, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Scott Tracy on October 3, 2006 at the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members, Scott Tracy, Jinny Dalbeck, Susan Boyd, Cindy Wilcox, and Joel Peterson.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. in Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent James Stratton, Deputy Superintendent William Loose and Assistant Superintendent Michael Leininger. Closed session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Scott Tracy, President
 Mrs. Jinny Dalbeck, Vice President
 Mrs. Susan Boyd, Clerk
 Mrs. Cindy Wilcox, Member
 Mr. Joel Peterson, Member

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:11 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Mr. Stratton, Dr. Loose, Dr. Leininger and Executive Secretary to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 4 people in the audience. Mr. Tracy asked Ms. Elaine Lemare to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Tracy reported there was no action taken in closed session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Boyd) to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the August 22, 2006; August 29, 2006; September 7, 2006 and September 12, 2006 meetings of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board in advance for review. Mrs. Dalbeck requested the Board approve the minutes as originally reported by Ms. Bergner prior to Board member changes. Mrs. Wilcox disagreed. The Board discussed the taking of minutes. Mrs. Wilcox made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. The motion failed for lack of a second. It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Peterson) that all minutes be tabled until the Board Bylaw on minutes is reviewed and revised. The motion to table the minutes until the Board Bylaw is reviewed and revised was adopted by a 4:1 vote with Mrs. Wilcox voting against the motion.

REPORTS

1. Student Representative

Mr. Heaton reported the Homecoming theme will be announced tomorrow. Mr. Heaton also reported ASB sub-committees are being formed. Last week there was a Red Cross blood drive on campus, which was very successful.

Mr. Tracy asked Mr. Heaton to get student input for the Board workshop on high school athletics at the October 24, 2006 Board meeting.

2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Stratton reported on the new décor in the Board room and discussed the student artwork.

Mr. Stratton reported the success of this year's Back-to-School Nights at all sites. Back to School night is an opportunity for teachers to talk about their classroom policies. The district always has a high attendance rate and this year was no different.

Mr. Stratton discussed the additional classes that have been added to the districts curriculum this year. Mr. Stratton reported this year is the first year the district is offering a third year of Korean and Spanish 4. There have also been changes to the English program including the addition of AP Language and AP Literature. A 7th grade elective Speech class has also been added, which bumps up with Journalism. The district is also starting the year with a new floating apple lab at the high school. The elementary sites have added a second year Spanish class and a new reading assessment device for K – 6.

3. President's Report

Mr. Tracy asked Mrs. Dalbeck to provide an update on Five Star Coalition. Mrs. Dalbeck handed out a flyer regarding a Five Star education Coalition forum entitled, "The Future of California Public Education" featuring Alan D. Bersin, Secretary of Education, state of California and talked about the expectations of the forum.

Mrs. Dalbeck discussed several propositions that are on the November ballot. A spreadsheet was distributed in TWIR with information on the propositions, along with information from EdSource.

Mr. Tracy asked the Board if they would like to take a position on Proposition 88. The Board agreed to bring a Resolution to the next meeting opposing Proposition 88.

Mr. Peterson provided an update on some issues currently being discussed at Joint Use. There has been an ongoing discussion on parking possibilities at FIS to alleviate some of the traffic and parking congestion near the fields. The city staff has put together a number of options and alternatives. The Joint Use Committee is currently looking at the pros and cons of the options provided. Mr. Peterson also provided an update on the Car Line Courtesy program at La Cañada Elementary. The PTA spearheaded finding volunteers to assist with pick up and drop off at LCE. Parents, staff and students are happy with the new program. Paradise Canyon and Palm Crest have not implemented the program. A third issue currently being discussed at Joint Use is a safety planning program in coordination with the City, County and the district. Lastly, Mr. Peterson discussed the old district office site options. The district would like to involve the City as much as possible in the process. The City stated they want the district to collect Palm Crest Elementary input prior to coming to the City.

4. Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations Report

Dr. Leininger provided a construction update. Dr. Leininger reported on the Building B Home Economics project. This project continues to move forward. The painting contract is in place.

The total construction cost is currently below the original OPC. Dr. Leininger reported the last major expenditure is appliances with a bid of \$37,000.

The first construction liaison meeting is tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. Dr. Leininger will be working with the construction management firm and the architects to start looking at the district's next set of projects.

Dr. Leininger provided a Palm Crest Site Facilities Committee update. Dr. Leininger met with the committee last week and there was an interest in proceeding forward with the multipurpose room. However, the main concern of the committee was increasing the size of the cafeteria to reduce lunches from 3 periods to 2 periods. Dr. Leininger worked with Lundgren Management and believes that would cost approximately \$250,000.

Dr. Leininger reported he was directed to research the State's funding requirements for the multipurpose room. School Facilities Consultant stated that we do not qualify based on the current square footage of the existing cafeteria. The other area School Facilities Consultants was looking at was SB 1677 which expanded the criteria. School Facilities Consultants stated that SB 1677 expanded the criteria and they were hoping it would be broad enough for the district to qualify. However, the governor vetoed that bill yesterday. Currently, School Facilities Consultants stated they can not find a way for us to qualify for state funding on this project. With that, staff will come back at the next meeting with the Paradise Canyon project and will try to get the recommendation back on the Palm Crest project. Mrs. Dalbeck asked for Board permission to explore some funding options from the State. The Board agreed to allow Mrs. Dalbeck to seek funding options from the State.

Dr. Leininger provided an update on some damage in a portable at Paradise Canyon Elementary. Due to the discovery of damage in the one portable, all portables at that site have been inspected. Dr. Leininger will provide an update on the damaged portable at a later date.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

None

PUBLIC HEARING

Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 for Grades K-12, Resolution 7-06-07.

The hearing was opened at 8:17 p.m. Hearing no public comment the hearing was closed at 8:17 p.m.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. **First Reading**
 - a. **Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 for Grades K-12, Resolution 7-06-07.** This item is being presented as a first reading. This is a state requirement in order to receive state funding. This item will come back to the Board on October 24, 2006 for approval.
 - b. **Disposal of Obsolete Computers and Equipment, R39-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Peterson) to approve the Disposal of Obsolete Computers and

Equipment. This item has come back to the Board for clarification. The disposal of obsolete computers and equipment is part of the district's refresh of computer equipment. Most of the obsolete computers and equipment were purchased between 1992 and 2000. The motion to approve the Disposal of Obsolete Computers and Equipment was adopted unanimously.

- c. ***Resolution 7-06-07 Supporting Proposition 1D.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Boyd) to approve Resolution 7-06-07 Supporting Proposition 1D. Mr. Stratton explained Proposition 1D. Mr. Stratton reported the districts biggest chance at funding would be through modernization. If the district qualified the district could potentially qualify for approximately \$10,000.00. Staff recommends the Board adopt this Resolution. Mrs. Dalbeck reported that the qualifications have not been identified yet and she isn't sure we will qualify. It was moved and seconded (Peterson/Boyd) to make minor modifications to the Resolution. The motion to make minor modifications to the resolution was adopted unanimously. The motion to approve Resolution 7-06-07 Supporting Proposition ID as amended was adopted unanimously.
- d. ***Appointment of Bond Oversight Committee member, R45-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Boyd) to approve the appointment of Bond Oversight Committee member. Mr. Stratton reported there currently is a vacancy on the Bond Oversight Committee. The District requested applications for the vacancy. However, none were received. Mr. Stratton then contacted Mrs. Linda Richmond and asked her to apply. Mrs. Richmond agreed and here application is being presented to the Board for approval. The motion to approve the appointment of Linda Richmond as a Bond Oversight Committee member was adopted unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Peterson) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.

- a. **Personnel Report, P6-06-07.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: *Certificated:* Modification: Betsy Bazdarich. Resignation: Susan Kobilarcsik. *CMSA:* Resignation: Susan Kobilarcsik. *Classified:* New Hires: Michael Alcouloumre, Klaris Bandari, Roubina Barkhordarian, Christine Connelly, Silvia Cordova, Amy Erickson, Jesse Estevez, Karen Furno, Hilary Gaede, Marie Harbabikian, Tawny Jorgensen, Lisa Kellogg, Sara Lloyd, Homer Lopez, Adrine Manukova, Sean McDermott, Sandy Miller, Stephanie Oblad, Bill Pruden, Karen Rosselet, Rebekah Ruswick, Linda Sims, Bethany Smedley, Vanessa Soto, Tara Sewart, Liouisi Tatarian, Ashleigh Valentine, Karen Wilcox. Reclassification: Claudia Alequin, Sara Lloyd, Andrea Lust, Aileen Peterson. Resignations: Kuuipo Aki-Siler, Amber O'Connor, Lauren Leone, April Rudisel, Jacqueline Semerau, Leslie Smith. Leave of Absence: Donna Shepherd. Retirement: Barbara Deak.
- b. **Special Activity: LCE Pali Mountain & Time Capsule, R43-06-07.** The Board approved the LCE Pali Mountain and Time Capsule field trip in Running Springs, California in October.
- c. **Special Activity: PCR Passage to the Motherlode, R44-06-07.** The Board approved the PCR field trip to Dana Point in January 2007. .
- d. **Rejection of Claim, R42-06-07.** The Board approved the Rejection of Claim #06-45141.
- e. **Gifts to District, R41-06-07.** The Board approved the Gifts to the District as presented.
- f. **Purchase Order List #5.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #5.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Boyd would like to discuss the possibility of directing staff to get a microphone system for the Board meetings. After some discussion, the Board directed staff to get a microphone system for the Board meetings beginning at the next Board meeting on October 24, 2006.

Mrs. Boyd discussed the lack of resources regarding the process of getting students into college. Mr. Tracy gave a directive to staff to report on what is currently available to parents regarding the college process.

Mrs. Boyd reported that at Back to School night it appeared to be business as usual in regards to tests coming home. Mr. Stratton responded the purpose of the Student Assessment Board policy is not that tests go home, its that teachers review the tests with the students before moving on to the next unit. The Board asked Mr. Stratton to research whether the revised assessment policy has made a change in the process.

Mrs. Dalbeck asked for a legal opinion on the requirements on Board minutes.

Mrs. Wilcox asked for an update on the Drama Support Group. Mr. Stratton reported the new Drama teacher, Lacy Stanley is holding a meeting this evening to pull together her parent support groups and to talk about how they will work together. Dr. Dragos will also be attending this meeting. The current Friends of Drama is preparing a letter to talk about what its intention is in terms of moving on, closing down and dispensing funds.

Mr. Peterson reported that for the last six years he has been supplying the Palm Crest Elementary Resource Room with supplies. Mr. Peterson questioned whether what is currently allocated for the sites Resource Rooms has been enough. Mr. Peterson would like staff to look at the supply budget for this area.

The Board discussed workshops. The following workshops were scheduled:

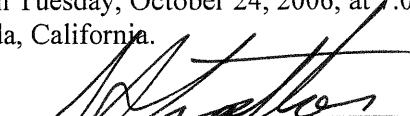
October 24, 2006	High School Athletics	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
November 14, 2006	Board Bylaws	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
January 16, 2007	Class Size	
February 27, 2007	Assessment Review	

Mrs. Wilcox asked for information on the complaint process. This information will be put in TWIR.

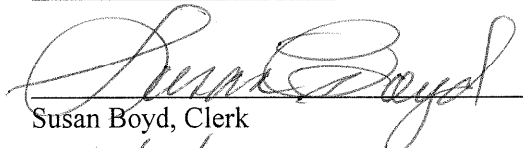
Mrs. Wilcox asked for a report on the Cafeteria.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.


James E. Stratton, Superintendent
Secretary to the Governing Board

MINUTES APPROVED


Susan Boyd, Clerk


Date

10/03/06

