

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

March 21, 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 March 21, 2006 at the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members, Scott Tracy, Jinny Dalbeck, Cindy Wilcox, Susan Boyd and Joel Peterson.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:00 p.m. in La Canada High School Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent Jim Stratton, Deputy Superintendent Bill Loose and Assistant Superintendent Mike Leininger. Closed session adjourned at 6:15 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

WORKSHOP: Assessment

The governing board workshop began at 6:23 p.m. Mr. Stratton stated assessment plays a critical role in four key questions: What do we want all students to learn? How will we know they have learned it? How will we respond when they do not master the learning? And how will we enrich for students who quickly master the learning? Mr. Stratton discussed the difference between Formative and Summative Assessments and provided definitions for Authentic Assessments, Anchor Assessments and Benchmarks. Mr. Stratton then discussed the benefits of authentic anchor assessments. Other topics Mr. Stratton touched on are Effective Anchor Design; Backwards Mapping; Matching Targets and Assessments; Traditional Practice; and Standards-Based Practice. Mr. Stratton then discussed the district's specific assessments by briefly going through various grade level/subject specific assessments. The workshop continued with a discussion on the La Canada High School Assessment Guidelines.

Mr. Stratton discussed what's next: the need to finish the anchor assessments for all courses; the need to "institutionalize" the ongoing review of results; the need to provide a range of interventions and resources for students who have not reached mastery and the need to monitor the assessment guidelines.

Principals were in attendance to answer questions from the governing board.

The governing board discussed some part of the assessment guidelines written and adopted in 2001. Mrs. Wilcox expressed concern that both students and parents needed the opportunity to review graded tests and essays and remarked that, depending on the department and teacher, this is a challenge at the 7-12 High School. Mrs. Wilcox related her experience of meeting with teachers to review well-constructed tests but also cited instances of errors in keys, poor copy quality, tests aligned to out of use text books and test which took more time than allotted in period. The board directed staff to research what all teachers are doing in regards to returning graded tests. The board wants to know how the teachers are complying with the assessment guidelines and who is complying. The Board would like this information brought back to the board.

The workshop was adjourned at 7:15 pm

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:18 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Mr. Stratton, Dr. Loose, Mr. Leininger and Executive Secretary to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 33 people in the audience. Mr. Tracy asked Kevin Buchanan 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/Wilcox) to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the February 28, 2006 regular meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of the February 28, 2006 were approved as presented.

Mrs. Boyd dismissed herself from the meeting.

REPORTS

1. Student Representative Report

The student representative was not present this evening

2. Superintendent's Report

- a) Student Recognition - Mr. Stratton introduced students that were designated as National Merit Finalists. Dr. Dragos introduced the students with Mr. Tracy presenting certificates to the students present.
- b) Yosemite Institute Report – LCHS teacher, Patty Compeau, was present along with students to share their Yosemite experience.
- c) 06/07 Kindergarten Enrollment –Mr. Stratton discussed the current Kindergarten enrollment. Mr. Stratton stated the district is currently under-enrolled in Kindergarten with fewer students than expected.

3. President's Report

- a) Launching Negotiations – Mr. Tracy read a statement from the La Canada Teachers Association regarding negotiations.
- b) Joint Use Committee – Traffic and Safety Issues – Mr. Tracy asked Mr. Peterson and Mrs. Dalbeck to explain their concerns regarding the traffic and safety issues.

Mr. Peterson stated that the school district has two primary and equal missions: 1) teach our children. 2) keep them safe. Mr. Peterson feels there has not been much of an organized effort to address children safety from the board level on down and stated the Joint Use Committee is the place to address these issues. Mrs. Dalbeck stated that the Joint Use Committee has moved in this direction anyway and this will just formalize this process.

Mrs. Dalbeck currently is working with Joint Use to address the traffic safety issues at the school sites. There currently is a pilot program beginning at La Canada Elementary using parent volunteers to help move and facilitate traffic at the student drop offs. The Sheriff's department will be doing the training of the volunteers for this pilot program. The committee will report back in May at Joint Use to report on how well the pilot program is working with the idea of implementing these programs at all elementary sites. Mr. Peterson's goal is to also include disaster preparedness to the Joint Use committee. Mrs. Dalbeck and Mr. Peterson will be working with Dr. Leininger on these issues. Mr. Peterson and Mrs. Dalbeck will bring a proposal to the next board meeting.

4. **Deputy Superintendent Report**

- a) **Classified Evaluation Process:** This is part two of the workshop on staff evaluation. Dr. Loose discussed the classified evaluation process.

5. **Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations Report**

- a) **Construction Update –** Dr. Leininger provided a construction update by discussing the Executive Summary.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:
Mandy Redfern

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Public Presentation of 06-07 District Negotiations Proposal to CSEA, R123-05-06.**
The public hearing was opened at 8:12 pm. Donna Shepherd read a statement expressing her concern on how the sunshine letter was handled. The hearing was closed at 8:14.
2. **Public Presentation of 06-07 CSEA Negotiations Proposal to District, R125-05-06.**
The public hearing was opened at 8:14 pm. There being no public comments the hearing was closed at 8:15 p.m.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. **First Reading**

- a. ***CAHSEE Waivers, R119-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to approve the CAHSEE Waivers. The board received detailed information on the three CAHSEE Waivers requested. The motion to approve the CAHSEE Waivers was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Language Arts Literature Approval, R120-05-06.** This item is being presented as a first reading. Mr. Stratton stated this is a request for approval of four titles. These are titles that would be part of an eight title unit whereby students would be choosing from the eight titles. These titles deal with social issues. This item will return at the April 18, 2006 meeting of the governing board.
- c. ***School Accountability Report Card 2004-2005 School Year, R122-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Peterson) to approve the School Accountability Report Card 2004-2005 School Year, R122-05-06. Ms. Dreibelbis-Arthur reviewed the SARC report with the governing board. Three minor changes to the report were made. The motion approve the School Accountability Report Card 2004-2005 School Year as amended was adopted unanimously.

- d. ***Resolution 15-05-06 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS).** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to approve Resolution 15-05-06 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes. Dr. Loose reported TRANS are short-term, tax exempt securities which are issued by public agencies to provide adequate funds for expenditures during periods of projected cash short falls. It was moved and seconded that this item be tabled to March 28th. (Dalbeck/Peterson) The motion to approve tabling this item was adopted unanimously.

2. Second Reading

- a. **Approval of Educational Goals, R107-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Peterson) to approve the Educational Goals, R107-05-06. Mr. Stratton reviewed the changes requested by Curriculum Council. The governing board reviewed the requested changes and made minor modifications. The motion to approve the Educational Goals, R107-05-06 as modified was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Corrections to CSEA Contract, R108-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to approve the Corrections to CSEA Contract, R108-05-06. Dr. Loose stated these corrections will bring the narrative portion of the CSEA contract to be aligned with the evaluation form. The motion to approve the Corrections to CSEA Contract was adopted unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P18-05-06.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: *Certificated:* New Hires: Andrea Donahoe. Modification: Susan Hamre. Retirement: Pat Cross. Resignations: Jill Sayre, Allison Sootkoos. *Classified:* New Hires: Evelyn Callister, Julio Diaz. Modifications: Byron Turner, Ricke Wang. Resignations: Robin Bevan, Jaime Martinez, Rhonda Memmer, Helen Turner. Leave of Absence: Donna Shepherd.
- b. **Request to go to Bid, R121-05-06.** The Board approved the request to go to Bid for the roofing in the Maintenance upper warehouse.
- c. **Gifts to District, R181-05-06.** The Board approved the following Gifts to the District.
- d. **Purchase Order List #12-05-06.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #12.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Dalbeck reported on the Five Star Forum.

Mrs. Dalbeck reported on Joint Use and the Roger Barkley Community Center parking structure proposal at FIS. Dr. Leininger will report on the proposal at the April 18th meeting as part of his report.

Mr. Stratton announced Learning to Lead is the third book Management Team is reading as part of Best Practice.

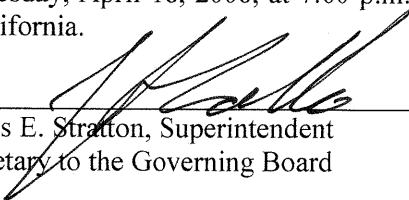
Pinnacle was discussed.

Mr. Peterson reported on the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The Next

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 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

