

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

May 9, 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 May 9, 2006 in 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 7:10 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 7:15 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 Chris Roberts. There were approximately 55 people in the audience. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Tracy reported the governing board unanimously approved the stipulated expulsion of student 03-05-06 for violation of Education Code 48900 (c), and the finding at Education Code Section 48915 (a)(3) for the remainder of the second semester of the 2005-06 school year and the first semester of the 2006-07 school year.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted unanimously. Mrs. Dalbeck requested item 2d be pulled. Mrs. Wilcox requested item 2e be moved to be 1e. The motion to approve the agenda as amended was adopted unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the April 18, 2006 meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. Mrs. Wilcox requested the minutes of April 18, 2006 be tabled until the next meeting. The request to table the minutes until May 30, 2006 was adopted unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Student Representative Report

Ms. Shipley reported students just finished CAT 6 testing. During CAT6 testing seniors had the opportunity to study for AP testing. AP teachers are giving AP students projects to

complete now that the curriculum is over for the actual AP classes. Juniors are researching for college scholarships.

Friday the Every 15 Minutes program is coming to the high school. This program focuses on drinking and driving and the impact it has on students.

Senior activities are picking up. There is an upcoming Dodger game, senior activity day to Catalina is next week. Prom is a week from Saturday. Seniors are picking up their announcements for graduation.

Mary Kay Hurlbutt and Karen Mathison won the Les Tupper Community Award.

2. **Superintendent's Report**

Student Recognition: Mrs. Robinson, Principal of Paradise Canyon Elementary, was present to introduce Zhi He Low. Zhi He Low is the first place winner of the Los Angeles County Spelling Bee. This was the districts first year of participating and the county's first in 20 years. Zhi will be attending the state competition soon. Mr. Tracy presented a Certificate of Achievement to Mr. Low.

Mr. Berger, LCE Student Council advisor, was present to introduce the Student Council. Mr. Berger introduced the students and shared their accomplishments this year. Mr. Tracy presented a Certificate of Achievement to the members of the LCE Student Council.

Assessment Guidelines Update: Mr. Stratton introduced Dr. Dragos and Ms. Sinnette, LCHS principal and 7/8 principal respectively. Dr. Dragos and Ms. Sinnette recently surveyed the LCHS and 7/8 teachers regarding individual teacher's policy on tests. Teachers currently have three options in order to meet the assessment guidelines on testing.

Dr. Dragos reported the high school survey results were different depending on department and staff. Dr. Dragos will work with all high school teachers to have an identified policy that meet the assessment guidelines regarding tests for the fall.

Parents in the audience expressed their concern about not getting graded tests sent home.

Ms. Sinnette discussed her findings in the 7/8 survey results. Ms. Sinnette reported that most teachers are aware of the policies that were formulated in 2002, and that 60% of teachers return tests.

Ms. Sinnette stated that as we move into next year when all teachers are using online grades parent awareness should improve. Ms. Sinnette stated we need the partnership between staff, students and parents.

Ms. Hillary Gregg, a 7/8 teacher from School 3, was present at the meeting to provide additional information regarding tests. Ms. Gregg does not return tests. Ms. Gregg handed out papers for the board and spoke of her experience during the last years.

Test construction and security issues were discussed.

Mrs. Wilcox appreciates the survey but stated that less than 50% gave an unqualified yes. Mrs. Wilcox would like all tests returned home and would like a board policy on this issue.

Mrs. Dalbeck stated she sat on the committee four years ago that created the assessment guidelines and stated the spirit of the guidelines are not being followed. Mrs. Dalbeck reported she recently attended an intense conference with approximately 150 board members and this is not an issue unique to La Canada. Mr. Tracy stated it is the opinion of the board to move forward from a guideline to a board policy and asked the Superintendent to come up with a

possible policy. Mrs. Redfern, LCTA President, stated that the state teachers group is looking at this situation as well and stated this should be done collaboratively with the teachers.

After some discussion, Mr. Stratton stated he will bring a board policy back to the board that reflects some version of the current guidelines. The board would like the policy to be ready for implementation in the Fall of 2006.

3. President's Report

Mr. Tracy asked Mrs. Dalbeck to report on the delegate assembly she recently attended. Mrs. Dalbeck discussed the school facilities bonds that will be on the ballot in November 2006, a proposed statewide parcel tax and teacher tenure.

4. Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations Report

Dr. Leininger provided a construction update. Item 2D was pulled due to timeline.

Dr. Leininger reported on his best practices. Dr. Leininger has focused on working on a district wide disaster preparedness plan and working closely with the Food Services Dept.

Dr. Leininger has worked on determining a baseline of disaster preparedness supplies needed and will continue to work on disaster preparedness district wide. Fire Suppression training started this year. Training will continue with first aide and CPR.

As part of Best Practices, Dr. Leininger continues to work with PTA and Sodexo to continue to improve the cafeteria.

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 District, R138-05-06.

The public hearing was opened at 9:35 p.m. Dr. Dietel, a parent of LCE and LCHS students, commented that he hopes class size reduction will be discussed in negotiations. There being no further public comments the hearing was closed at 9:36 p.m.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. First Reading

- a. **Resolution 19-05-06 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Wilcox) to adopt Resolution 19-05-06 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay. In the event the governing board intends to revise salaries for unrepresented employees and possibly make salary changes retroactive to July 1, 2006, or to any other mid-year retroactive date, salaries must be legally indefinite as of the retroactive date. The motion to adopt Resolution 19-05-06 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay was adopted unanimously.
- b. ***School Safety Plans, R137-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to approve School Safety Plans, R137-905-06. The Board reviewed and discussed the individual site school safety plans. The Board requested that next year the sites provide

full analysis of crime statistics and draw conclusions. The Board continued dialogue regarding the School Safety Plans. The motion to approve School Safety Plans, R137-05-06 was adopted unanimously.

- c. ***Resolution 20-05-06 In Opposition to Proposition 82 – Preschool for All.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Boyd) to adopt Resolution 20-05-06 In Opposition to Proposition 82 - Preschool for All. It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Wilcox) to amend Resolution 20-05-06. Mr. Tracy read the amendment recommendations. The Board discussed the proposed amendments. Mrs. Dalbeck discussed the “no position” the attendees of the Delegate Assembly took on this issue. There was general discussion regarding the lasting effects of preschool. Ms. Redfern, LCTA President, stated CTA has taken a “yes” position on this issue. The motion to adopt Resolution 20-05-06 In Opposition to Proposition 82 – Preschool for All as amended was adopted unanimously.
- d. ***Resolution 21-05-06 Recommending Delayed Implementation of Proposition 49 – Before and After School Programs.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to adopt Resolution 20-05-06 Recommending Delayed implementation of Proposition 49 – Before and After School Programs. It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dalbeck) to amend Resolution 21-05-06 Recommending Delayed Implementation of Proposition 49 – Before and After School Programs. The recommended changes were reviewed and discussed by the Board. The motion to adopt Resolution 21-05-06 Recommending Delayed Implementation of Proposition 49 – Before and After School Programs as amended was adopted unanimously.
- e. **Ratification of Special Activities, R142-05-06.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Boyd) to approve the Ratification of Special Activities, R142-05-06. Mrs. Robinson was present to discuss the ratification. The motion to approve the Ratification of Special Activities, R142-05-06 was adopted unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P20-05-06.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: *Certificated:* Release of Temporary Contacts: Maria Almanzar, Vanessa Balderrama, Jennifer Bituin, Caroline Chai, Alicia Close-Pal, Marie Evelyn, Susan Fuelling, Gregory Hardash, Jenny Keens, Wendy Kepner, Julia Lee, Deven MacNair, Erin O’Reilly, Michelle Parker, Alison Ryan, Sharon Sherman, Any Sweetnam, Kaite Villanueva. Retirement:: Dorothy Canavan, Mary Weaver. *Classified:* Alex Herrera.
- b. **Extra Duty, Extra Pay, P21-05-06.** The Board approved the Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report.
- c. **Request to Accept Bid for Upper Warehouse Roofing at Facilities Department, R139-05-06.** The Board accepted the bid from Solar Integrated Technologies for Roofing the Upper and Lower Sections of Upper Warehouse.
- d. **Notice of Completion, R140-05-06.** This item was pulled.
- e. **Gifts to District, R136-05-06.** The Board approved the following Gifts to the District.
- f. **Purchase Order List #14.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #14.

COMMUNICATIONS

Calendars were discussed.

Mrs. Dalbeck distributed information she received at a conference regarding Avian flu.

Mrs. Wilcox made a motion to extend the meeting 30 minutes. The motion failed for lack of a second. It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Peterson) to extend the meeting 10 minutes. The motion to extend the meeting 10 minutes was adopted unanimously.

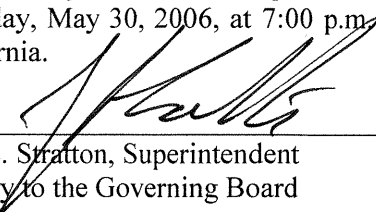
The Every 15 Minutes assembly at the high school was discussed.

Mrs. Boyd stated the Title 9 information provided in TWIR is not complete enough and stated there are discrepancies. Mrs. Boyd asked for a report from the high school. Mr. Stratton will talk to Dr. Dragos, LCHS Principal.

The Board discussed the Student Representative job description.

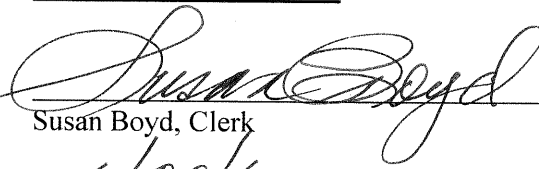
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, May 30, 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

