

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

February 26, 2002

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Jinny Dalbeck on February 26, 2002 in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center at 4463 Oak Grove Drive in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Andy Beattie, Jinny Dalbeck, Ron Dietel, Meredith Reynolds, and Scott Tracy, Superintendent Sue Leabo, and Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:01 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center Workroom. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent Sue Leabo, and Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton. Closed Session adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Jinny Dalbeck, President
Mr. Scott Tracy, Vice President
Mrs. Meredith Reynolds, Clerk
Mr. Andy Beattie, Member
Mr. Ron Dietel, Member

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:12 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Dr. Leabo, Jim Stratton, and Secretary to the Superintendent Judy Mellick. There were approximately 45 people in the audience. Mrs. Dalbeck asked PTA Council President Penny Ledbetter to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Dalbeck reported that the Board took action in Closed Session to demote a classified employee. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Dalbeck stated that the minutes of the January 31, 2002 special meeting and the February 5, 2002 regular meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of the January 31, 2002 special meeting and the February 5, 2002 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

REPORTS**1. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Leabo reported that the 600 bldg. is coming along nicely. They are starting to put up masonry on LCE Science Center. The groups are meeting to discuss Phase 2.

2. Golden State Exams/Update on Computer Proficiency

Mr. Stratton reported on the Golden State Exams. The exams cover 12 different areas. 20% of students throughout the state take the exam and about 10% are honored. The percentage of students from LCUSD who received honors/recognition in each subject are as follows: Algebra 1 – 67%; Geometry – 60%; U.S. History – 20%; Economics – 41%; Biology – 60%; Chemistry – 56%; Government – 47%; Written Composition – 49%; Reading/Lit. – 37%; High School Mathematics – 47%; Physics – 58%; Spanish – 76%.

Mr. Stratton also reported on the computer competency at the high school. Demonstration of proficiency on an exam or enrollment in a class on computers is required for graduation. The test has gone through a number of transitions, from a scantron test to a hands-on test. Courses that can meet the proficiency have changed as well. The High School Technology Committee is looking at new ways to meet the proficiency, and will be meeting this spring to come up with some suggestions.

The following audience members addressed the Board on this issue:

Judy Cosgrove
John Tosello
Char Adams
Sarah Beattie
Kathy Gallagher
Linda Bair
Lynn Messner

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board recommended that staff work out the details of how to resolve the issue of students meeting the computer proficiency requirement. Mr. Stratton suggested that the Technology Committee be allowed to work on the issue and come back with a recommendation at the April 2 Board meeting.

3. Student Representative Report

JoAnn Bicknell was not at the meeting at this time.

4. Curriculum Council Report on District Goals

It was moved and seconded (Reynolds/Tracy) to amend the agenda to pull the report on district goals. There will be a workshop March 5 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss this issue. The motion to amend the agenda was adopted unanimously.

Opportunity to address Board

There were no audience members who addressed the Board at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING**1. Public Presentation of LCTA and District 2002-03 Negotiation Proposals, R156-01-02**

Dr. Leabo reported that the district is in the process of opening discussion with LCTA. Mrs. Dalbeck opened the hearing to the public for comments at 8:35 p.m. There were no comments from the public. The hearing was closed at 8:36 p.m.

1. **First Reading**

- a. ***Assistance League Summer School Contract, R159-01-02.** It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Dietel) to approve the Assistance League Summer School Contract. Mr. Stratton reported that the district provides a summer school program in the core curriculum areas and in remedial areas. The Assistance League has long operated an enrichment program during the summer. Mr. Stratton introduced Linda Gill and Sally Spence. The motion to approve the Assistance League Summer School Contract was adopted unanimously.
- b. ***Recommendation for Further Action on FIS, R155-01-02.** It was moved and seconded (Beattie/Dietel) to approve the recommendation for further action on FIS. Dr. Leabo reported that the K-12 Options Committee recommended to the Governing Board that a survey be conducted to determine the support for the \$18 million bond and a parcel tax to demolish and rebuild FIS. The District hired Godbe Research & Analysis to conduct the survey. The results of the survey did not support a bond measure nor a parcel tax. The survey, however, included 70 people who do not live in the LCUSD. The results were re-calculated without those 70 people and the results were virtually the same.

Josh Williams and Tim McLarney from Godbe Research & Analysis reported on the changes in the results. They found out that there were two precincts in the sample that were not within the school district. They changed the sample size to 530 from the previous 600. This changes the margin of error from 3.85% to 4.12 %.

Mr. Tracy asked if the timing of the survey made any difference. Mr. Williams replied that they have not found a significant difference in other surveys they have done.

Mr. Tracy said that there have been challenges to the appropriateness of the numbers used and suggestions that the numbers biased the responses. Mr. Tracy explained how the figures were developed. He said that the numbers were reasonable to use for the survey.

The following persons addressed the Board on this issue:

John Finnegan
 Nick Roland
 Cindy Wilcox
 Mark Bair
 Bert England
 Darryl Forgey
 Karen Mathison
 Jennifer Rudisill
 Jerry Martin
 Joe Puglia
 Sue Bicknell
 John Lafia
 Jeanette Applegate

The motion to approve the recommendation not to pursue a bond measure and parcel tax to demolish and rebuild FIS was adopted. The vote was 4-1. Ayes – Beattie, Dalbeck, Reynolds, Tracy. Nays – Dietel.

- c. ***CSBA Delegate Assembly Election, R154-01-02.** It was moved and seconded (Reynolds/Tracy) to instruct President Dalbeck to mark the ballot for the CSBA Delegate Assembly Election. The motion to mark the ballot for the CSBA Delegate Assembly

Election to vote for Jeanne Bentley, Tommy McMullins and Matt Smith was adopted unanimously.

- d. ***Resolution #20-01-02 in Support of Proposition 40, the Clean Air, Clean Water, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002.** It was moved and seconded (Beattie/Tracy) to approve Resolution #20-01-02 in support of Proposition 40. Mrs. Reynolds explained that this was a recommendation by Anthony Portantino to the Joint Use Committee. The motion to approve Resolution #20-01-02 in support of Proposition 40 was adopted unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P18-01-02.**
- b. **Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report, P19-01-02.**
- c. **Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding, R158-01-02.**
- d. **Special Activities: Choral Groups Tours, R161-01-02.**
- e. **Special Activity: Advanced Art Field Trip to Taos and Santa Fe, New Mexico, R162-01-02.**
- f. **Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency Contracts, R158-01-02.**
- g. **Agreement for Auditing and Accounting Services, R150-01-02**
- h. **Disposal of Surplus, R152-01-02.**
- i. **Gifts, R146-01-02.**
- j. **Purchase Order List #11.**

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications at this time

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 a.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center.

Sue Leabo, Interim Superintendent
Secretary to the Governing Board

MINUTES APPROVED

Meredith Reynolds, Clerk

Date