

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

May 8, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Scott Tracy on May 8, 2007, in 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 6:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent James Stratton, Deputy Superintendent Bill Loose and Assistant Superintendent Mike Leininger. Closed session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:10 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Mr. Stratton, Dr. Loose, Dr. Leininger and Executive Secretary to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 40 people in the audience. Mr. Tracy asked Paradise Canyon Elementary student Sophia Eckerle to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Tracy reported that in Closed Session the Board met and discussed the status of personnel related litigation and provided direction to staff and legal counsel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Peterson) to approve the agenda. Mrs. Boyd requested items 3g and 3h be moved to first reading. The motion to approve the agenda as amended was adopted unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the April 18, 2007, meetings of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. Mrs. Boyd made an amendment to the minutes. The minutes of the April 18, 2007, meeting of the Governing Board were approved as amended.

REPORTS

1. Student Representative

Mr. Heaton reported on high school sports, prom and AP testing. Prom is approaching rapidly and there are many activities leading up to prom. AP testing has begun and will continue through the week.

2. **Superintendent's Report**

Two groups of winners, both of which come from Paradise Canyon Elementary, were present for the Superintendent's Student Recognition. The two groups to be recognized were the Screen Actors Guild writing contest winners and the Los Angeles County Environmental Education Fair winners. Mr. Stratton asked Paradise Canyon Elementary principal Mrs. Robinson to share some information about the winners. Mrs. Robinson reported briefly on the Screen Actors Guild contest and then introduced Paradise Canyon Elementary teacher Marian Darling, who stated that the students entered the contest in January. Sophia Eckerle and Diana Kim were both winners in this contest and their work will be published in an upcoming book to be published by the Screen Actors Guild. Mrs. Robinson, Ms. Darling and Mr. Tracy presented certificates to Ms. Eckerle and Ms. Kim.

Mrs. Robinson introduced Paradise Canyon Elementary teacher Robin Williams. Mrs. Williams reported that she has been taking students to the Los Angeles County Environmental Education Fair for the past 22 years. This year students won first and second place in the contest. Mr. Tracy, Donna Robinson and Ms. Williams presented certificates to the contest winners.

Mrs. Robinson thanked Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Darling for their dedication to the students of Paradise Canyon Elementary. Mr. Stratton thanked the parents for their support in coming to the meeting for the student recognition.

Mr. Stratton stated that STAR testing is in process and that AP tests will begin shortly. LCHS Assistant Principal Kevin Buchanan confirmed that this will be a record year for the high school in the number of AP tests taken.

3. **President's Report**

Mr. Tracy deferred his report.

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

Construction Update: Dr. Leininger reported on the request to the accept bid on LCHS B Building 2nd and 3rd floor. He stated that the bids came in under the estimate.

Dr. Leininger will be going back to Palm Crest Elementary and Paradise Canyon Elementary to talk to their site committees to discuss options to make sure these projects come in on budget. Mrs. Boyd asked if Dr. Leininger is comfortable with the lowest bidder on the LCHS project. Dr. Leininger reported he is comfortable with the company.

Food Services Update: Dr. Leininger reviewed the changes to the Food Services report as discussed at the last meeting. Dr. Leininger recently visited Peninsula High School and is planning on attending Arcadia High School to gather more information about exemplary food service practices.

Mrs. Dalbeck asked Dr. Leininger if he has reviewed the report done by the Nutrition Committee. Dr. Leininger affirmed that he has reviewed the report.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Mandy Redfern, LCTA President regarding ratification

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. **First Reading**

- a. ***School Accountability Report Card 05-06, R126-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Wilcox) to accept the School Accountability Report Card for the 2005-2006 school year. Mr. Stratton reported that Lindi Arthur prepares the SARCs each year. Ms. Arthur was present to discuss the reports with the Board. Ms. Arthur reported that this year each report has an executive summary. Mr. Tracy asked for clarification on some figures in the report. Ms. Arthur will research the questions. Ms. Arthur reported that the expenditures part of the report is new this year. Mrs. Wilcox requested some modifications to the report, which she will forward to Ms. Arthur. It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Peterson) to table the report until the next regular board meeting. The motion to table the report to the next regular board meeting was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Potential New Courses at LCHS, R144-06-07.** This item is being presented as a first reading. Mr. Stratton stated this is a request to add a Korean 4, AP Psychology and ROP Graphic Design. Kevin Buchanan was present to discuss these courses. Mr. Buchanan discussed the success of the current Korean classes. He expects UC approval prior to registration. This item will come back at the next meeting for approval.
- c. ***Comprehensive School Safety Plan, R123-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Dalbeck) to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan, R123-06-07. This item was tabled at the last meeting. Joanne Davidson was present to answer Board questions. Ms. Davidson discussed unsolved vandalism and the process for solving the incidents. Mrs. Wilcox asked Ms. Davidson about truancy, particularly those truanancies after lunch time. Ms. Davidson reported that Saturday school has helped reduce truanancies and suspensions. The motion to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan was adopted unanimously.
- d. ***Resolution 24-06-07 To Limit Candidate Statement to 200 Maximum Words.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Peterson) to adopt Resolution 24-06-07 To Limit Candidate Statements to 200 maximum words. This is a standard resolution prior to an election. The motion to approve Resolution 24-06-07 To Limit Candidate Statements to 200 Maximum Words was adopted unanimously.
- e. ***Resolution 25-06-07 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Peterson) to adopt Resolution 25-06-07 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay. This provides the flexibility for the Board to provide a retroactive pay for unrepresented employees, which would include CMSA employees. The motion to approve Resolution 25-06-07 Declaration of Indefinite Salaries for Retroactive Pay was adopted unanimously.
- f. ***Resolution 27-06-07 Proposed Decision on 07-08 Layoff of Certificated Employees.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Dalbeck) to adopt Resolution 27-06-07 Proposed Decision on 07-08 Layoff of Certificated Employees. The district has determined that it is necessary to decrease the number of certificated employees of the District for the 2007-2008 school year due to declining enrollment. On March 6, 2007, the Board approved a resolution that set in motion the procedure to lay off certificated personnel. The district then went through the appropriate steps for a certificated lay off. An administrative law judge reviewed the district's process for the lay offs and found that the district followed the process and upheld the decision by the board. The motion to approve Resolution 27-06-07 Proposed Decision on 07-08 Layoff of Certificated Employees was adopted unanimously.
- g. ***Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, R144-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Peterson/Boyd) to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. This is a routine item which is required by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. In the event an application for an emergency permit is required, a Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

must be on file in Sacramento. The motion to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educations was adopted unanimously.

- h. ***Approval of Transfer to Deferred Maintenance Fund, R141-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Boyd) to approve the Transfer to Deferred Maintenance Fund. Annually, the district can apply for ½% of the combined adopted budget for the state matching funds for deferred maintenance. In February 2006, the Board approved a transfer from the General Fund to the Deferred Maintenance Fund of \$154,315 for 05/06. The State notified the district that additional funds of \$19,798 are available for 05/06. In order to receive the additional funds, the district must transfer \$19,798 into the Deferred Maintenance Fund. The motion to approve the transfer to the Deferred Maintenance Fund was adopted unanimously.
- i. **Assistance League Elementary Instrumental Music agreement, R151-060-7.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Boyd) to approve the Assistance League of La Cañada Flintridge Elementary Instrumental Music agreement. The Board had a discussion regarding district liability for non-district programs. It was requested that all organizations using district facilities for non-school activities provide a statement disclaiming any connection with the district. It was also requested that a statement be included in the facilities use agreement that the school district is not responsible for the non-school sponsored activity. The Board provided direction to staff to follow through on those two points and that the modifications to the Facilities Use Agreement be provided in TWIR. The motion to approve the ALF Elementary Instrumental Music agreement was adopted unanimously.
- j. **Special Activities: LCHS Band & Guard to Band Camp, R143-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Peterson) to approve the Special Activities: LCHS Band & Guard to Band Camp in August. This is the annual Band Camp request which takes place in the summer. Mrs. Boyd asked about financial assistance and the requirement to attend the camp. Financial assistance is provided by the LCHS Music Parent Association. The attendance requirement will be researched and reported back to the Board. The motion to approve the Special Activities: LCHS Band & Guard to Band Camp in August was adopted unanimously.

2. Second Reading

- a. **Textbook Adoption: Social Science Grades K-6, Reflections: California Series, R134-06-07.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Boyd) to approve the Textbook Adoption: Social Science Grades K-6, Reflections: California Series, R134-06-07. At the last meeting Mr. Stratton shared the criteria and recommendation of staff. The motion to approve the Textbook Adoption; Social Science Grades K-6, Reflections: California Series was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Approval of Board Policy Revisions and Additions, R132-060-7.** It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Dalbeck) to approve the Board Policy Revisions and Additions as presented. Upon review of the Board no recommended changes were requested. The motion to approve the Board policy revisions and additions as presented was adopted unanimously.

3. 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, P17-06-07.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items:
Certificated: Summer School Hires: Nicole Baird, Robert Berger, Marina Chahine, Joanne Davidson, Mary Ruth Dicks, Mark Ewoldsen, Mary Lou Langedyke, Linda Mackessy, Kevin Mathews, Richard Mohny, Bob Phillips, Erin Thomas, Leslie Turnipseed, Justin Valassidis, Daniel Yoder. Release of Temporary Contracts: Alicia Close-Pal, Andrea Coates, Susan Fuelling, Tara Georgenes, Gregory Hardash, Lina

Hariz, Cynthia Hayes, Nathan Howe, Mercy Jesudass, Julia Lee, Oksana Sandefur, Odessa Scott, Colin Spitler, Amy Sweetnam, Erin Thomas, Mary Ellen Walker. Resignation: Tawni Allen, Nancy Oberlander. *Classified*: Hires: P. Michael Harty, John Roberts, Caroline Vartan, Laurel Asher, Renee Phillips, Heather Bursch, Karen Wilcox. Resignations: Karen Wilcox, Kathy Weninger. Retirements: Donna Shepherd, Carol Wood.

- b. **Extra Duty, Extra Pay, P18-060-7.** The Board approved the Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report as presented.
- c. **Approval of Increase of Facility Use Rates for the 07-08 School Year, R148-06-07.** The Board approved the increase of facility use rates for the 07-08 school year.
- d. ***Recommendation to accept bids for LCHS Bldg b 2nd and 3rd floor, R145-06-07.** The Board accepted the bids from HMI Construction for general construction in the amount of \$2,633,600.00, Floor Covering Unlimited for flooring in the amount of \$66,620.00, and painting Décor LTD for painting in the amount of \$54,390.00 for the LCHS Building B 2nd & 3rd floors project.
- e. ***Recommendation to accept bids for Roofing Projects, R146-060-7.** The Board accepted the bid from Stone Roofing for the Palm Crest, La Cañada Elementary and Oak Grove roofing projects in the amount of \$281,750.00.
- f. ***Change Order #2 Bldg F and Elevator, R149-060-7.** The Board approved Change Order #2 for Bldg F and Elevator for HMI Construction Services in the amount of \$15,326.16.
- g. **ALF Elementary Instrumental Music agreement, R151-06-07.** This item was moved to first reading.
- h. **Special Activities: LCHS Band & Guard to Band Camp, R143-06-07.** This item was moved to first reading.
- i. **Gifts to District, R142-06-07.** The Board approved the Gifts to the District as presented.
- j. **Purchase Order List #14.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #14.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Wilcox reported on a coffee she had with Mr. Steve Del Guercio in which a discussion regarding declining enrollment and Sagebrush ensued. The history of Glendale Unified's opposition to any Sagebrush status change was discussed.

May 14, 2007 is the Les Tupper awards.

Mrs. Boyd reported that the Boosters Golf Tournament raised close to \$35,000. 60% of the funds go towards athletics and the other 40% go toward school programs.

Mrs. Boyd reported on the 8th grade La Crosse team and stated they would like to be added as a high school CIF team. The 8th grade team is currently undefeated.

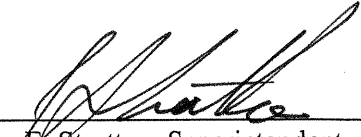
Mrs. Dalbeck would like to change the May 16, 2007 meeting to 7 pm with no dinner.

It was shared that Mrs. Wilcox and Mr. Peterson will participate in the Memorial Day Parade.

Mrs. Dalbeck reported on a Five Star Coalition sponsored meeting for ROP counselors of districts to discuss possible ways to pool resources and share program opportunities.

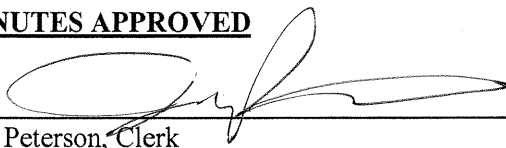
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.



James B. Stratton, Superintendent
Secretary to the Governing Board

MINUTES APPROVED



Joel Peterson, Clerk

7/12/07

Date