

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

October 23, 2007

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 23, 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 5:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent James Stratton, Deputy Superintendent Bill Loose and Assistant Superintendent Mike Leininger. The principals also joined the Governing Board in Closed Session. 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 7:05 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 26 people in the audience. Mr. Tracy asked Jeanne Broberg 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.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

No agenda modifications were requested.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the August 14, 2007, meetings of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. Revised minutes were presented. The Board took a moment to review the revised minutes. The minutes of the August 14, 2007, meeting of the Governing Board were approved as revised. It was moved and seconded (Boyd/Wilcox) to remove the last sentence in the high school parent survey results report on page 61 and attach a copy of the parent survey to the minutes. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was adopted unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**1. Student Representative**

Mr. Heller updated the Governing Board on the Homecoming events that occurred last weekend. Homecoming was very successful despite the outcome of the game, and the dance was a success. October is a very full month of student activities.

**2. Superintendent's Report**

**Student Recognition:** Mr. Stratton announced that high schools are very lucky to have one student qualify as a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. La Canada High School is especially proud to have 13 students who are National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists this year. Those students were present to be recognized by the Governing Board, Superintendent and high school principal. Dr. Dragos assisted Mr. Tracy with the presentation of certificates to the students.

**3. President's Report**

Mr. Tracy provided an update on Governing Board workshop requests. A majority of the Board agreed to focus on more specific subjects and to also have study sessions in lieu of workshops. A few of the items requested were: class size reduction, construction, traffic/parking/safety, program for high achieving students. Mr. Tracy had also asked Jeanne Broberg to contribute ideas, which were consistent with the Board requests. Mrs. Wilcox requested clarification on the construction workshop request. Mr. Peterson clarified that he felt it important to hold a construction workshop due to the fact that a new portion of the bond will be sold and feels it is important to inform the public of upcoming construction projects. Mr. Stratton reported that he is very pleased with the direction of the workshops because they conform with the Superintendent goals. Mr. Tracy stated that some Board requests will be addressed by way of a report in lieu of a workshop.

Mrs. Wilcox asked for clarification on the request for a Traffic/Parking/Safety workshop. Mr. Peterson reported that it meant parking around sites, safety at sites and disaster preparedness. Mr. Peterson stated that this is an attempt for the City and the district to work and plan together on these issues. Mrs. Wilcox asked when this will be scheduled. Mr. Peterson encouraged Board members to consider calendaring his request early in 2008.

Mrs. Wilcox reported on her request to hold a GATE workshop. Mrs. Wilcox stated that as a concern to address declining enrollment and as a request to be in accordance with Every Student Succeeds, she would like to see GATE addressed at some point by the Governing Board.

Mrs. Dalbeck suggested looking at the number of workshops that the Board calendars and to work toward a resolution to the issues being discussed. Mrs. Dalbeck stated it may be helpful to set objectives for a workshop. Mr. Peterson stated that many of the recent workshops were to update the Board Bylaws and stated there have been many workshops that provided direction to staff.

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

Dr. Leininger stated that Mr. Peterson alluded to the work that is being done on safety. Dr. Leininger reported that he has contacted Embree Buses and confirmed that Embree will assist the sites if evacuation is needed.

Dr. Leininger provided a construction update reporting that the Building B punch list is almost complete. Dr. Leininger has recently met with a site committee which included the Science Department to discuss the Building A project. Dr. Leininger will meet again with the entire committee tomorrow morning to show the layouts. Dr. Leininger reported that through meeting with the Science Department they have been able to take some storage space and turn it into classroom space. This has resulted in at least three rooms that are larger. Additional storage space has been provided.

Dr. Leininger reported on the process for the installation of the lockdown hardware at the elementary sites. The project will take about 3 weeks per school and the work is being done without moving students from their classrooms.

Dr. Leininger provided a drawing of the changes to the proposed Foothill median project and discussed the outcome of recent meetings with the City regarding the project.

## 5. **Director of Assessment Report on SAT & AP Results**

Mr. Stratton introduced Ms. Arthur who was present to discuss the SAT and AP Results. Ms. Arthur started with the Advanced Placement scores. Ms. Arthur provided an Advanced Placement Examination Overview from 2003-2007. 24% more students took tests in 2007 over 2003, with an increase of 23% more tests. While the number of students and tests taken grew by almost one-quarter, the pass rate remained in the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile.

Ms. Arthur reviewed the AP results by subject from 2003 – 2007, reviewing percentage of pass rate by subject. Ms. Arthur further discussed the AP Results for classes taught at LCHS. Participation rates were reviewed.

Ms. Arthur moved on to provide a College Board SAT overview. Ms. Arthur clarified that the SAT I is now the SAT Reasoning Test, and the SAT II Subject Tests are now SAT Subject Tests. Ms. Arthur cautioned that the test participants are college bound, self-selected students. Students receive scaled score ranges from 200 to 800. The SAT data are used to interpret individual scores within a broader context of college-bound seniors, to study changes in characteristics of students taking the tests and to look at longitudinal educational, demographic or performance changes. Ms. Arthur reviewed the La Canada High School student SAT scores by subject.

The Governing Board thanked Ms. Arthur for her informative presentation.

## **OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Margaret Bourke, LCUSD parent, regarding GATE

## **PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS**

### 1. **First Reading**

- a. **\*Appointment of Bond Oversight Committee members, R46-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Boyd) to approve the Appointment of Bond Oversight Committee members, R46-07-08. Mr. Stratton reported there currently are two positions vacant on the committee. Each position on the committee is specifically delineated. The two positions that have expired are a senior citizen position and a 7/8 parent position. It is requested that these two positions be filled by Cynthia Smither and Ellen Multari respectively. Mr. Stratton discussed the selection process and the qualifications of the two applicants. The motion to approve the appointment of Cynthia Smither and Ellen Multari as members of the Bond Oversight committee 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. **Internship Credential Agreement, R48-07-08.** The Board approved the Internship Credential Agreement with Point Loma Nazarene University.
- b. **Contract with Maxim Healthcare Services for Personnel Services, R47-07-08.** The Board approved the contract with Maxim Healthcare Services for personnel services.

- c. **Approval of Assistance League of Flintridge Summer School Contract, R38-07-08.** The Board approved the summer school contract with the Assistance League of Flintridge.
- d. **Approval of Assistance League of Flintridge Sprouts Program, R35-07-08.** The Board approved the Sprouts Program contract with the Assistance League of Flintridge.
- e. **Contract with LACOE for Participation in Marine Education, R41-07-08.** The Board approved the LACOE contract for Participation in Marine Education.
- f. **Approval of Interdistrict Agreement with Arcadia Unified School District, R40-07-08.** The Board approved the Interdistrict Agreement with Arcadia Unified School District.
- g. **Accept Bid for Lockdown Hardware at LCHS, R42-07-08.** The Board approved the bid from EJ Enterprises for \$135,209.00 for the installation of lockdown hardware at the high school.
- h. **LCHS Disposal of Textbooks, R43-07-08.** The Board approved the disposal of textbooks at the high school.
- i. **Surplus of LCHS Equipment, R44-07-08.** The Board approved the surplus of items at the high school.
- j. **Surplus of Equipment, R45-07-08.** The Board approved the surplus of a fax machine in the high school cafeteria.
- k. **Gifts to District, R39-070-8.** The Board approved the Gifts to the District as presented.
- l. **Purchase Order List #5.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #5.

### COMMUNICATIONS

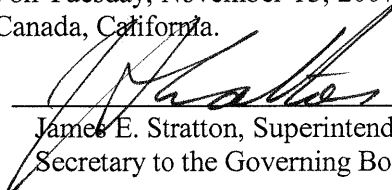
Mrs. Boyd discussed the invitation to the Boosters Fundraiser and announced that Mrs. Dalbeck is being honored as the Spirit Award honoree from Boosters.

Mrs. Boyd reported that the teachers lounge has been taken care of and is sparkling clean.


Mrs. Wilcox made a request to continue to make the calls for Closed Session updates. Direction was received from the Board for staff to provide Closed Session contents prior to the board meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.

  
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 James E. Stratton, Superintendent  
 Secretary to the Governing Board

### MINUTES APPROVED

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Joel Peterson, Clerk

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 Date

1/10/08