

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

October 1, 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 October 1, 2002 in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center at 4463 Oak Grove in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Jinny Dalbeck, Ron Dietel, Meredith Reynolds, and Scott Tracy, Superintendent Sue Leabo, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton, and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis.

**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 four Board Members, Superintendent Sue Leabo, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton, and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis. Closed Session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mr. Andy Beattie, Member

**GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOP – Facilities Master Plan**

The Board reconvened to Open Session at 6:06 p.m. for a workshop on the Facilities Master Plan update. Mrs. Dalbeck introduced Craig Windsor of Osborn Architects. Mr. Windsor provided some background on the Facilities Master Plan (FMP) update. The task was to update the 1995 Facilities Master Plan with input from all sites by October 1, 2002. The FMP was brought as a first draft to the Executive Committee. After feedback from the school sites, the second draft is being brought to the Board tonight.

Mr. Windsor defined the work scope, which was to update the master plan by looking at all district facilities, and update any information about all sites, including the district office. There have also been a couple of subset studies, such as the possible option to move Palm Crest to FIS, which was dismissed as not feasible, and looking at moving the district office to FIS in two different scenarios.

Mr. Windsor reported that there are four study elements – physical condition assessment, capacity analysis, code assessment, and educational needs assessment. Since it is important to use current enrollment data, the final figures will not be included until after the CBEDS report is done in this month. The impact of class size reduction at the elementary level is also being studied. There are no code issues that rise to the level of needing immediate attention, with the exception of Oak Grove and FIS.

Mr. Windsor described the process and planning team, which consisted of the Governing Board, the Executive Committee, the Community-Based Committee, and site and special study committees. He met a number of times with those committees. The Plan product consists of four chapters with appendix.

The issue of interim housing at the high school was discussed.

Dr. Leabo reminded everyone that there will be additional bonds sold in August 2003 and that the high school science labs were already designated as top priority.

The final draft will come to the Board for approval at the October 22 meeting.

The Governing Board Workshop was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:23 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center. Present were the four Governing Board Members, Dr. Leabo, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Banis, and Secretary to the Superintendent Judy Mellick. There were approximately 25 people in the audience. Mrs. Dalbeck asked Craig Windsor to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mrs. Dalbeck reported that there was no action taken in Closed Session.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Dalbeck stated that the minutes of the September 10, 2002 regular meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of the September 10, 2002 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

### **PRESENTATION FROM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Educational Foundation President Char Adams and past co-presidents Phyllis Kochavi and Rose Chan presented a check to LCUSD for \$685,000. Ms. Adams thanked Dr. Leabo, Mr. Banis, and Mr. Stratton, and said she really appreciated the partnership they have formed. Dr. Leabo and Mrs. Dalbeck thanked Ms. Adams and the Educational Foundation for their continuing support of LCUSD.

### **REPORTS**

1. **Superintendent's Report**
  - a. Delaine Eastin's Visit – Mr. Stratton reported that Ms. Eastin spent about 2-1/2 hours in the district and visited PCY and the high school. She was able to see some of the new construction and was able to see in action some of the things she has worked for at the state level.
  - b. Modernization Update – Dr. Leabo reported that the final walk-throughs have been scheduled for Thursday morning at the elementary sites and at the high school on Friday morning. Construction is 98% completed.
2. **Report on STAR Standards Test Results** – Mrs. Arthur reported on the standards test results. This is a criterion referenced test, which does not compare students' scores to each other, but compares to state standards. There are five levels of performance – advanced, proficient, basic, below basic and far below basic. The majority of La Cañada students are in the proficient or advanced categories.
3. **Student Representative Report** – Ms. Linden reported that the year started out well. There are 13 National Merit scholars at the high school. ASB has started working on Homecoming.

Students are now into the new art building. After some initial problems, the traffic situation is now under control.

4. **President's Report** – Mrs. Dalbeck reported that she chaired a meeting of the Legislative Action Committee, which consists of all of the PTA legislative chairs and other interested community members. They discussed the November elections. Proposition 47 information was disseminated. Proposition 47 is a bond for new modernization monies, with a 60-40 match. Proposition 49 has to do with after school programs and would divert funding from other current programs (Proposition 98 allocation). Mrs. Dalbeck said that she spoke with Assembly Member Carol Liu, who is cautioning everyone about how badly the state budget is looking for next year. There are no more one-time programs to cut next year, and there has been talk of suspension of Proposition 98.

### **DISTRICT GOALS PROGRESS**

Mr. Stratton explained the district goal of Student Support – Ensure that all students receive appropriate support for their academic, social, emotional and individual needs as they work to develop their fullest potential. The implementation of this goal is to provide opportunities that allow all students to develop social skills, experience leadership, apply personal ethics, develop character and citizenship, practice tolerance and value cultural diversity.

Mr. Stratton introduced the elementary school principals, Wendy Sinnette (PCR), Donna Robinson (PCY), and Esther Salinas (LCE), who reported on the “SAFE Schools/Cool Tools” program that is being used in the elementary schools.

LCHS 7/8 Principal Gaylene van Zijl reported on the “You Can Do It” Program that is being used in 7/8 and which teaches confidence, persistence, organization and getting along. The program also provides parent guidelines for managing homework.

LCHS 9-12 Principal Dr. Mike Leininger reported on the “Choices” program, which is a pilot character education program. This program teaches responsible teen behavior and educates students on the connection between their mental health needs and choices that are available to them. Specific attention is given to choices regarding substance use and tobacco use.

### **OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board regarding the reading intervention program:

Julie Olson, 1 Berkshire Place  
 Debra Stolmack, 1021 Atlee Drive  
 Cecilia Kaesler, 1135 Green Lane  
 Karen Gilmour, 1234 Pequena Lane  
 Lise Geller, 1019 Atlee Drive  
 Kathy Kaze, 1238 Fernside Drive  
 Kaitzer Puglia, 1362 Green Lane

The following audience member addressed the Board regarding sending tests home:  
 Cindy Wilcox, 4408 Union

### **PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS**

1. **First Reading**

- a. **Approval of Facilities Master Plan Update, R61-02-03.** This item is for first reading only. Information is provided above in the Governing Board Workshop on Facilities Master Plan.
- b. **\*Budget Revisions, R58-02-03.** It was moved and seconded (Dietel/Reynolds) to approve the Budget Revisions. Mr. Banis explained that these are changes in the district's budget since the state budget was approved. The motion to approve the Budget Revisions was adopted unanimously.
- c. **\*Budget Calendar, R59-02-03.** It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Reynolds) to approve the Budget Calendar. Mr. Banis explained that this calendar reflects important timelines for preparation and approval of the district budget. The motion to approve the Budget Calendars was adopted unanimously.
- d. **\*Resolution #4-02-03 Proclaiming October 23-31, 2002 as Red Ribbon Week.** It was moved and seconded (Reynolds/Dietel) to approve Resolution #4-02-03 Proclaiming October 23-31, 2002 as Red Ribbon Week. Dr. Leabo explained that this is a week to focus on ways to be healthy and drug-free. The motion to approve Resolution #4-02-03 was adopted unanimously.
- e. **\*Resolution #5-02-03 Statement of Assurance of Standards Alignment of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials, Grades 9-12 for Fiscal Year 2002-03.** It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Dietel) to approve Resolution #5-02-03 Statement of Assurance of Standards Alignment of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials, Grades 9-12 for Fiscal Year 2002-03. Mr. Stratton explained that the Board has approved textbooks and the district is now recommending this resolution so textbooks can be purchased out of Schiff-Bustamante funds. The motion to approve Resolution #5-02-03 was adopted unanimously.
- f. **Board Policy 0420 School Plans/Site Councils, R63-02-03.** Mr. Stratton explained that this policy revision reflects changes in the Education Code. This item is for first reading only.

## 2. Consent Agenda

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P5-02-03.**
- b. **Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report, P6-02-03**
- c. **Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency Contracts, R57-02-03.**
- d. **Lease Amendment, Renaissance Academy, R60-02-03.**
- e. **Purchase Order Lists #4 and #22.**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Dalbeck reminded Board members to let Judy Mellick know if they are planning to attend the CSBA Conference in December.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, October 22, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center.

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Sue Leabo, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Governing Board

**MINUTES APPROVED**

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Meredith Reynolds, Clerk

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Date