

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

March 11, 2003

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by President Scott Tracy on March 11, 2003 in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center at 4463 Oak Grove in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Jinny Dalbeck, Andy Beattie, Ron Dietel, Meredith Reynolds, and Scott Tracy, Superintendent Sue Leabo, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton, and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis.

**EXPULSION HEARING**

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m. for an expulsion hearing. Present were the five Governing Board members and Deputy Superintendent Jim Stratton. Closed Session adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Tracy reported that the Board voted unanimously in favor of a stipulated expulsion for Student #1-02-03.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:22 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center Workroom. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent Sue Leabo, Deputy Superintendent of Educational Services Jim Stratton, and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis. Closed Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

**GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOP ON 2003-2004 BUDGET**

The Governing Board Workshop on the 2003-2004 Budget was convened at 6:35 p.m. by President Scott Tracy. Mr. Tracy stated that it is important to communicate to the community what is currently known about the State budget and its effect on the district. Mr. Dave Banis relayed the information currently known regarding the State budget and its possible effects on the district. Mr. Banis stated that the State education budget is proposed at \$44.1 billion for 2003-2004. Mr. Banis discussed the proposed mid-year reductions to the district. A 2.15% reduction in revenue limit for the district will reduce revenue \$460,000. Proposed COLA for 2003-2004 is 0%. The District goal in reductions for 2003-2004 is \$1,200,000. Possible reductions were discussed totaling \$1,355,000. Questions from the audience were taken. The following audience members addressed the Board:

Annette O'Brien, Parent  
Randy Strapazon, Parent  
Richard Weld, LCTA Representative  
Cindy Wilcox, Parent  
Susan Bornhurst, LCE Teacher

The Workshop adjourned at 7:45p.m.

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

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:45p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Dr. Leabo, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Banis, and Administrative Secretary, Kim Bergner. There were approximately 26 people in the audience. Mr. Tracy asked LCHS Teacher Richard Weld to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Mr. Tracy reported that there was no action taken in closed session.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Tracy stated that the minutes of the February 25, 2003 regular meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of the February 25, 2003 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

### **REPORTS**

1. **Superintendent's Report –**
  - a. **Personnel Update** – Dr. Leabo introduced Enoch Kwok as the new Director of Technology. Dr. Leabo stated that an application for Distinguished School for LCHS has been completed and received by the State. The state has sent a letter stating that LCHS is under consideration to be a Distinguished School. A site visit is scheduled for March 24, 2003. Dr. Leabo thanked Dr. Mike Leininger, Principal of LCHS, Cindy Keech, Asst. Principal of LCHS and Mary Jane Hufstedler, teacher at LCHS for their extra effort in completing the Distinguished School application in such a timely manner.
  - b. **Golden Apple Award** – Dr. Leabo announced that Jinny Dalbeck will be receiving the Golden Apple Award this year from the District. This is the first time that a current member of the board has received this award. Mrs. Dalbeck will be recognized Thursday, March 13, 2003.
2. **Student Representative Report** – Tricia Linden reported ASB had to revise their budget. The Backwards Dance was very successful and a Blood Drive is planned. Ms. Linden also stated that La Canada High School qualified 11 students in the second round of the American Mathematics Contest. The second level will be given on Tuesday, March 25, 2003. La Canada High School is also participating in the California Mathematics League and is currently in third place in the state. The final round for this test is Tuesday, April 1, 2003.

3. **TUPE Required WestEd Alcohol and Drug Survey** – Mrs. Ricewasser stated that the Healthy Kids survey was given in April of last year and is a requirement of the TUPE grant. Mrs. Ricewasser informed the Board that the survey is given to 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders. Mrs. Ricewasser informed the Board that 45% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders took the survey, 39% of the 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 30% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders took the survey. This recent survey shows a reduction in drug and alcohol use by La Cañada Unified students taking the survey. The comparison with La Cañada High School to the California and National survey results is outstanding. Mrs. Ricewasser stated that this reduction is a result of the district's many anti-drug and anti-drinking programs that start at the elementary level.

### **DISTRICT GOALS PROGRESS**

The TUPE grant drug survey was a report of district goals progress.

### **OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Patty Compeau, LCHS teacher  
 Annette O'Brien, Parent  
 Aileen Peterson, CSEA President  
 Marianne Newcombe, LCHS parent  
 Joel Peterson, LCHS parent

### **PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS**

#### **1. First Reading**

- a. **\*Second Interim Budget Report, R151-02-03.** It was moved and seconded (Dietel/Beattie) to approve the Second Interim Budget Report. Mr. Banis reviewed the Second Interim Budget. The motion to approve the Second Interim Budget Report was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Board Policy 6162.52 – High School Exit Exam, R153-02-03.** This item is presented for first reading. Mr. Jim Stratton stated this Board Policy is required by law. This Board Policy will be presented for second reading on April 1, 2003.
- c. **Authorization for Use of Reserves in the 2003-04 Budget, R154-02-03.** This item is presented for first reading. Mr. Dave Banis stated that this request will help the district maintain a balanced budget for 2003-04. He stated that up to \$300,000 would be made available. Mrs. Reynolds stated her opposition to this request. She stated that using these reserves is only a short-term solution. After much discussion by the board it was requested that the district bring to the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting additional information on alternate options for the district. The board requested clarification on reserves, where the reserves are and what possible alternatives there are for the \$300,000.

#### **2. 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, P16-02-03.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: *Classified:* New Hires – Food Service Worker Anahid Balasanian. Reclassification – Teresa Jimenez from Accounting Technician to Payroll Technician. Resignation – Payroll Technician Noel Carpenter. *Certificated:* New Hires – ED Teacher Marisa Bajenski, ROP Teacher Tom Forrester, ROP Teacher Britta Foshee, Secondary Teacher Julie Jarvis, Secondary Teacher Cynthia Manuel, Secondary Teacher Kerry Rupe. Leave of Absence – Claudine Douglas. Resignations: Brittney Barker, Shannon Burke, Lisa Chung, Tracy Heverly, Meighan Krone, Patricia Rhodes. *CMSA:* New Hire – Director of Technology and Special Projects Enoch Kwok. *Certificated:* Approval for Tenured Status – Katherine Budde, Simon Constantinides, Marion Darling, Chris Edsey, Mandy Emory, Hilary Gregg, Jennifer Harris, Paul Kim, Kimberlee Kimes, Linda Kwan, Barbara Leach, Elaine Leibl, Linda MacKessy, Kevin Mathews, Leslie Mayne, Myrna McCune, Laura Strametz, Tom Traeger, John Van Haaster.
- b. **Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report, P17-02-03.**
- c. **Gifts, R152-02-03.**
- d. **Purchase Order List #11.**

### COMMUNICATIONS

Upcoming district events include the Education Foundation Gala on March 22, 2003 and the 9-12 Choral Spring Concert on March 13, 2003.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2003, 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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Ron Dietel, Clerk

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Date