

**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**February 12, 2002**

**MINUTES**

**(Unadopted)**

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on February 12, 2002, at the District Office Board Room, 1400 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Present were Board members, Dorothy L. Beaubien, Mary Jo Del Campo, Dolores Didio, and Patricia H. Phelps. Timothy G. Stephens was not present. Also present were Neil Schmidt, Interim Superintendent, Richard W. Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services; Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, Linda Vranesh, Director, Elementary Education, and Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum/Media Services, were also in attendance.

**ROLL CALL**

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mary Jo Del Campo, President. The Board discussed appointment/employment of Certificated: teachers; Classified: substitutes; Bilingual Cross-cultural ESL Instructional Facilitator/Spanish, Child Care Assistants, Child Nutrition Assistant I, Groundskeepers, Instructional Assistants/Special Education, Intermediate Clerk Typist, substitutes; Exempt: specialists, campus supervisors, student helpers, proctor, athletic coaches, other (Naturalists). The Closed Session ended at 7:04 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:08 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

President Del Campo led the Pledge of Allegiance and read announcements for the Board meeting that reviewed instructions regarding smoking, cell phones, Speaker's Cards, Public Statement Cards, and where the public can find agendas and Board procedure information.

**PLEDGE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 4-0; student vote Aye.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Tanialee Rohde, Thousand Oaks High School, was seated with the Board and along with Kevin Rourke, Conejo Valley/Century High Schools and Corey D. McMahon, Newbury Park High School, reported on events at their campuses such as Groundhog shadowing day, Valentine promotions/fund raisers, Senior ball, rallies, plays, Spirit Night at the Teen Center, Focus on Learning and Self Study, ASG/ASB events, drum contest, 10<sup>th</sup> grade counseling program, Career Fair, community service projects and motivational speakers. Jordan L. Gershman, Westlake High School, was not present but submitted her report, which was read by Tanialee Rohde.

**STUDENT REPS.**

Patti Yomantas, Chairperson, Conejo Council PTA, announced that February is the founding month of PTA in America, and offered a short history on the evolution of the organization. She stated that the core values of the State organization are: promoting the well-being of all children; helping to ensure that all students develop to their fullest potential; encouraging parent involvement; and advocating for the safety of all children and the opportunity for a quality public education. Ms. Yomantas informed the Board that on March 8 PTA leaders will gather for a school safety symposium.

**ADVISORY  
GROUPS**

Jack Tucker, Chairman, Bond District Advisory Committee (DAC), reported on the upcoming sale of bonds and the priority of remaining projects. Mr. Tucker also commended Mr. Mortimer and business office staff for their full support of the Bond DAC's interest and questions regarding Bond spending.

Schmidt: 1) thanked the Thousand Oaks/Westlake Village Regional Chamber of Commerce for their annual recognition and installation of officers banquet Friday evening where the "Teacher of the Year" was announced for last school year, 2000-2001. Merle Pappas, special education teacher at Banyan, was selected. Ms. Pappas stated that she was representing all teachers as she accepted her award. Other "Teachers of the Month" were Deanna Hackman, Rich Acton, Rae Lynn Guevara, James Benkert, Mary Ann Steele, Martha Swyney, Kim Warshaw, Janice Prezzano, and Jack Doman. 2) also thanked Office Depot for the \$5,944 store credit for three of our elementary schools: Park Oaks, Manzanita, and Conejo. Office Depot also contributed 500 backpacks for students through their "Free Supplies for Students" program. Park Oaks held a "thank you" assembly on Monday for Office Depot. 3) announced that the opening ceremony of Redwood Middle School's gymnasium will be February 22 at 2:30 p.m., and the last middle school gymnasium opening will be Sequoia, which will open later this month. 4) was pleased with the way the District has taken an aggressive approach on tree trimming over the years since there has been very little damage during the current high wind days. 5) congratulated Colina Middle School and Thousand Oaks High School for having been notified that they will both receive a visit from the National Blue Ribbon team. This honor demonstrates how fortunate we are to be part of a community with such excellent schools.

**SUPT.  
REMARKS**

David Ayers spoke about the District's choice of *Everyday Mathematics Program* for next year's mathematics adoption. Mr. Ayers cited information he got from the State Department's website regarding choices for math adoptions, and the fact that the State Board of Education rejected this program "because the State Board found that the submission did not adequately meet the criteria for adoption, taking into account the totality of the information received. The State Board's action was in keeping with the recommendations of the Curriculum Development and Supplemental Materials Commission." Therefore, many funding sources are not available for the *Everyday Mathematics Program*. Richard Simpson responded that this program was first choice of most schools in the District, with the understanding that other funding sources and a waiver from the State Department would be sought. He also commented that not all of Mr. Ayers' information was accurate, and that the staff would be giving the Board a complete presentation on this at the next Board meeting.

**PUBLIC  
CONCERNS**

Dr. Schmidt thanked Mr. Ayers for raising important issues about this decision. (Sydney Stein, Lynn Quick, and Diana Maiorca submitted Speaker's Cards and yielded their time to Mr. Ayers.)

**PUBLIC  
CONCERNS  
(CONT.)**

Nick Quidwai read the Mission Statement of the District, commended Mrs. Yomantas for her historical account of PTA, repeated his disappointment that the Board meets on the same evening as the City Council, encouraged the public to review the plans of the Planning Commission and attend the meeting, asked for a summary of the superintendent's search team's survey of the community, and asked to be a part of the final interviews.

Dan Del Campo thanked the Board and District for their support and cooperation in the Western Plateau preservation plan. He recognized the Board for helping to solve problems, and sincerely appreciated their letter of support.

Mrs. Phelps commended the Chamber for their installation of officers and recognition banquet where the Teacher of the Year (2000-2001) was announced. She mentioned that many times during the evening the businesses in our community are recognizing education and the schools are mentioned as partnerships. She also commended the Chinese School's annual presentation at the Civic Arts Plaza.

**BOARD  
REMARKS**

Mrs. Beaubien discussed some of the elementary arts programs, and in particular a cultural program for first graders at the Civic Arts Plaza. She was told by a County representative that our District is the only one in the County that has an arts program at every grade level. She also commended the first graders for their excellent behavior during the program.

Mrs. Del Campo commended both Thousand Oaks and Westlake High Schools for placing in the top three at the Academic Decathlon.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #6043 - #6052, Classified #C-0780 - #C-0828 and Exempt #E-3146 - #E-3208, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0.

**PAO'S**

Mrs. Didio moved to adopt the proposed amendment to Board Policies 739, 739.1, 739.2 and 739.3, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**AMEND  
POLICIES**

Mrs. Phelps moved to amend policy 474.4 as proposed, designating all certificated employees and all classified employees at school sites as "mandated reporters" of observed or suspected child abuse, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Nick Quidwai read a portion of this policy from the agenda, and stated his displeasure with the District allowing sheriffs to interview students without parent permission. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #2 filed.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to expel student #18-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective January 15, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated January 17, 2002; and readmit student #18-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 18-0102E to apply for

**EXPULSIONS**

readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #3 filed.

**EXPULSIONS  
(CONT.)**

Mrs. Phelps moved to expel student #19-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective January 24, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated January 24, 2002; and readmit student #19-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student #19-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #4 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to expel student #20-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective January 31, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated January 31, 2002; and readmit student #20-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student #20-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #5 filed.

Mrs. Beaubien moved to expel student #21-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective February 5, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated February 5, 2002; and readmit student #21-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student #21-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after June 14, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #6 filed.

Mrs. Didio moved to approve Resolution #0102-13 to increase the School Facility Fees allowed by law, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0. A.R. #7 filed.

**RESOLUTION  
FACILITY  
FEES**

President Del Campo opened a Public Hearing on Urgency Resolution #0102-14, Facility Fee Increase at 8:02 p.m. There were no speakers and the Hearing was closed at 8:03 p.m.

**PUBLIC  
HEARING**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve Urgency Resolution #0102-14 to immediately increase the School Facility Fees, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 4-0. A. R. #8 filed.

**URGENCY  
RESOLUTION  
FACILITY  
FEES**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 4-0. A.R.s filed: Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of January 22, 2002; A.R. #9—Overnight Trip Request: Westlake High School Cheer Squad; A.R. #10—School Choice Capacity Limits; A.R. #11—Parent Support/Booster Organization: Sequoia Middle School Band; A.R. #12—Parent Support/Booster Organization: Wildwood Technology; A.R. #13—Purchase Order Report #598. Nick Quidwai submitted a Public Statement Card to support good use of tax funds.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**INFORMATION**

The Board received information regarding Madroña Full-Day Kindergarten. Kerry Anderson, Scott Lamp, Marie Tarbet, Tamara Casebolt and Tiffany Fardad spoke in opposition to a full-day kindergarten program at Madroña. Dr. Schmidt acknowledged the concerns of the parents, and stated that the State of California is making significant changes in the curriculum at the kindergarten level, which is becoming more academic. Linda Vranesh and George Coyle, Principal, Madroña Elementary School, presented information and the process which led to this proposal. Mr. Coyle stated that a survey was distributed to kindergarten parents and the results were that 85% of the parents indicated that they would be interested in a full-day program. Of those parents who were not interested, a variety of reasons were mentioned why they would not choose this option. Mr. Coyle brought the concept to the School Site Council, where issues were discussed. Mrs. Didio asked how class size reduction would be affected; Mr. Coyle responded that the teachers work independently of each other, but share a small amount of time in the classroom together. Mrs. Didio asked if the enrichment program was a separate program; Mr. Coyle responded yes, and it is a paid program. Mrs. Didio asked if the program was successful, would it be discriminating not to offer the program at schools other than Madroña; Mr. Coyle responded that Madroña has the facilities to accommodate the program. Dr. Schmidt responded that not all the schools could offer the program due to facilities restrictions, but that School Choice would provide an option. However, parents usually want their kindergarten students at their neighborhood schools. Mrs. Vranesh indicated that other schools have already called about this program at their schools. Mrs. Beaubien confirmed the same concerns as Mrs. Didio, and wished that she had more time to learn about the proposal. She indicated that she would like similar surveys to be processed at other schools. Mrs. Beaubien and Mrs. Didio sympathized with the parents who wanted to keep their children in the half-day program. Mrs. Del Campo suggested that a phase-in program be considered so parents have a choice of a full or half day program. Dr. Schmidt commented that there are ways to come to a workable solution, and as long as the Board is responsive to the request, he is confident that most people would be satisfied. Mrs. Del Campo assured the Madroña parents that they are being heard, and that the Board and staff will spend more time on this issue.

Three Public Statement Cards were submitted on the subject of full-day kindergarten: Karen Brousseau and Nanci Weaver—pro; Gilly Whiteman—con.

The Board received information regarding 2001-2002 Second Quarter Financial Statements; there were no comments.

The Board received information regarding 2002-2003 Initial Budget Forecast. Mr. Mortimer reminded the Board that there is still a difference of \$1 million from the Governor's budget cuts that will still need to be considered in next year's budget, unless the cuts are restored.

**INFO.****FULL-DAY  
KINDER-  
GARTEN****2001-2002  
SEC. QTR.  
FIN. STATE.****2002-2003  
INITIAL  
BUDGET  
FORECAST**

Items of legislation: Dr. Schmidt stated that staff will be coming to the Board on February 27 with personnel assignment order recommendations in order to balance the budget for next year.

**ITEMS OF LEG.**

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

**PERS. COMM.**

President Del Campo adjourned the regular session at 8:47 p.m. The Board will convene on Tuesday, February 26, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

**ADJOURN**

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February 26, 2002  
Date Clerk

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February 26, 2002  
Date Secretary

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