

CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

REVISION

April 23, 2002  
MINUTES  
(Adopted)

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on April 23, 2002, 7:00 p.m., 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, Patricia H. Phelps and Timothy G. Stephens. Dr. Neil Schmidt, Interim Superintendent; was also present as well as 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.

**ROLL CALL**

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mary Jo Del Campo, President. The Board discussed appointment/employment of: Certificated teachers; Classified: Health Clerk, Instructional Assistant/Special Education, Substitutes; Substitutes; Exempt: Specialists, Campus Supervisors, Proctors, Other. The Closed Session ended at 7:08 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:11 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

President Del Campo led the Pledge of Allegiance. She 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. Mrs. Del Campo announced the reception for Dr. Robert Fraisee, new superintendent, at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum on April 29, 4-6:00 p.m., and invited the public to come to meet him.

**PLEDGE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda with the following amendments: A.R. #3 Agreement with the Ventura County Children and Families First Commission to Operate the Conejo Valley Neighborhood for Learning Program has been amended – (copies were available); A.R. #4 Amendment to the Conejo Substance Abuse Prevention Authority Joint Powers was pulled from the Agenda; A.R. #9 Purchase Order Report #603 Purchase Order #0204001 was pulled from the report, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Dr. Linda Calvin, Associate Director, Pupil Services, presented certificates of congratulations to the Just-Say-No Poster Contest winners, grades K-12.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Allen Roubik thanked District staff and principals who were helpful in gathering school supplies and backpacks for school children in Spitak, Armenia, a town that was badly affected by an earthquake in 1989.

Mike Waters, Principal, Colina Middle School, presented certificates of congratulations to the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Bowl Team winners from his

school and Marilyn Zick, team coach.

School-to-Career coordinators Leigh-Ann Diffenderfer, Newbury Park High School, Mel Dick, Thousand Oaks High School, and Lauren Looker, Westlake High School, reported on the School-to-Career program progress at the schools.

**REPORTS**

Dr. Neil Snyder, Principal, Ladera Elementary School, reported and presented a video on activities and events at Ladera. Dr. Stephens commended Dr. Snyder and the entire staff at Ladera for their excellence.

Jack Tucker, Bond District Advisory Chairperson, reported on the status of the bond projects and sales.

**BOND DAC**

Dr. Schmidt: 1) congratulated Craig Fox, science teacher at Redwood Middle School, for having been selected as one of five teachers state-wide as an Amgen Science Teacher of the Year. He cited Mr. Fox’s comments to the press, “I think the best thing science teachers can do is get kids to doubt what they hear and base decisions on the facts they learn;” 2) thanked the Board for honoring 22 senior students and their parents at the Celebration of Excellence dinner last Wednesday at the Ronald Reagan Library; 3) discussed the Stanford 9 testing grades 2-11 that began this week and will continue through May 7; 4) announced that beginning May 9 through May 29 the schools will hold their Open House events. He encouraged parents to attend the events and welcomed them to call our office for details if needed; 5) congratulated the TOHS wind ensemble for their excellent performance of the processional at the inauguration of the new president of Cal State University Channel Islands, Dr. Richard Rush. He thanked Marty Martone for his direction of the students at this special occasion; 6) congratulated the staffs, parents, and students at Aspen, Banyan and Westlake Elementary Schools for being selected as Distinguished Schools.

**SUPT. REMARKS**

Gail Fishkin commented on her disappointment that bond funds are proposed for the new joint facility on Janss Road.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joy Meade discussed her concerns about over crowding in the schools and her displeasure with the proposed movement of the Continuation School to Janss Road.

Tom Ritch requested records from Educational Television for the Conejo (ETC). Mrs. Didio reminded Mr. Ritch that Educational Television for the Conejo is a non-profit corporation which is separate from the Conejo Valley Unified School District.

Debbie Bavaro discussed her disappointment with the proposed Continuation School plans.

Paul Nicholson commented on the new track dedication at Thousand Oaks High School that was attended by Marion Jones, an alumnus. Mr. Nicholson discussed the remaining needs to bring the track to state-of-the-art.

Suzanne Duckett spoke in support of teachers and discussed the condition of the bathrooms at Redwood Middle School.

Cathy Carlson questioned the District's referral to Top 100 Schools, Distinguished School and Blue Ribbon Schools in District literature.

**PUBLIC  
CONCERNS  
(CONT.)**

Nick Quidwai discussed the conflict of City Council and School Board meetings being on the same date, supported teachers' salaries and benefits and questioned the Board about the Brown Act and violations.

Dr. Schmidt addressed the previous public statements about overcrowding in our schools. He stated that our State is last nation wide in student/teacher ratio and the funding of schools is low compared to other states. However, compared to other schools in our State, our class size figures are comparable. He agreed that smaller class sizes would be desirable, however, there is not sufficient funding from the State. He offered for any parent concerned about overcrowding in the classrooms to call the superintendent's office for information.

Regarding the proposed relocation of the Continuation School, the current location is over 75 years old, and cannot be rehabilitated without investing millions of dollars. The relocation of the Continuation School is not at the expense of any of the other priority bond projects, which are being completed in phases. Modernization projects depend on the sale of the bonds, and we have been fortunate that the sales have been successful.

President Del Campo thanked the Thousand Oaks High School wind ensemble for their performance at the Cal State University Channel Islands presidential inauguration, and congratulated all the students and their parents who were present at the Celebration of Excellence on April 17.

**BOARD  
REMARKS**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #6109 - #6120, Classified #C-0916 - #C-0926 and Exempt #E-3353 - #E-3427, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0.

**PAO'S**

Dr. Stephens moved that due to lack of work and lack of funds, the Board of Education finds that it is in the best interest of the school district to direct the Interim Superintendent to commence implementing procedures to reduce the classified positions as requested, effective June 30, 2002. The layoff proceedings will be in accordance with the provisions of the CSEA Contract of Agreement between the District and Chapter 620, CSEA and the California Education Code, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**REDUCE  
CHILD  
CARE  
POSITIONS**

Mrs. Phelps moved to expel student #34-0102E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective April 9, 2002, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated April 9, 2002; and readmit student #34-0102E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 234-0102E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after January 24, 2003, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #2 filed.

**EXPULSION**

Mrs. Didio moved to authorize the superintendent or his designee to sign and execute an agreement with the Ventura County Children and Families First Commission to operate as the short-term contractor, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #3 filed.

**AGREEMENT  
TO OPERATE  
CV-NfL**

Mrs. Phelps moved to raise the meal prices \$.25 for both breakfast and lunch at the elementary and secondary grades levels, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Nick Quidwai appealed to the Board that some students cannot afford the current prices. Dr. Schmidt assured him that families can qualify to receive subsidization and that the Child Nutrition Department tries to work with all families who need help. Mr. Mortimer commented that our district is in line with the cost of lunches at surrounding districts and cited several programs. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #5 filed.

**LUNCH  
PRICES**

Dr. Stephens moved to adopt Resolution #0102-21 authorizing the issuance of the 2002 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #6 filed.

**RESOLUTION**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R.s filed: Minutes of Study Session March 26, 2002; Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of March 27, 2002; Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of April 9, 2002; A.R. #7—Approval of Intent to Participate in Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program for Fiscal Year 2002/2003; A.R. #8—Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorization: Newbury Park High School Band; A.R. #9—Purchase Order Report #603; A.R. #10—Change Order #2—Elevator Newbury Park High School 01-02; A.R. #11—Change Order #5—Gymnasiums at Four Middle School; A.R. #12—Change Order #2—Fire Alarm, Clock, and Bell – Pacificom; A.R. #13—Notice of Completion: Gymnasiums at Four Middle Schools; A.R. #14—Notices of Completion—Various Sites-Fire Alarm, Clock and Bell; A.R. #15—Award of Contract: Various Cabling Projects District Wide.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**INFORMATION**

**INFO.**

The Board received information regarding amendment of Policy 334.8 Attendance of Foreign Exchange Students; there were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding amendment of Policy 343.2 The School Day for Students; there were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding Extended-Day Kindergarten at Cypress, Manzanita and Wildwood Elementary Schools for the 2002-2003 school year. Dr. Stephens asked if any other schools were requesting for next year; staff replied that those that are interested will probably closely watch developments at the approved sites for 2002-2003 and apply for the following year. Mrs. Beaubien requested to see the kindergarten curriculum; staff will provide. Mrs. Didio stated her concern that the students will have too much structure and not enough unstructured time appropriate for that age; Dr. Schmidt agreed that the staff has the same concern and will watch this carefully. Mrs. Beaubien discussed her concerns that some of these children will not be ready for full-day schedules. Dr. Stephens commented that with

the change in the curriculum at the State level, it would seem that extending the day would take the stress off the students, giving them more time to address the curriculum. Mrs. Phelps pointed out that only 50 minutes are being added to their day and that by the support of the staff, she trusts that they would use the time to the advantage of the student. Mrs. Beaubien stated that she would prefer that parents had a choice of full or half day. Mrs. Del Campo commented that the State is requiring curriculum and she agrees with Dr. Stephens that by lengthening the day it will take the stress off the students and teachers. She also supports the decision of the staff and site council.

**INFO.  
(CONT.)**

There were no items of legislature.

**ITEMS OF  
LEG.**

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

**PERS. COMM.**

President Del Campo adjourned the regular session at 9:25 p.m. The Board will convene on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

**ADJOURN**

\_\_\_\_\_ May 28, 2002 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ May 28, 2002 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Secretary

*The above date reflects signatures on the revised document.  
This document was revised to reflect the report by Ladera Elementary School.*

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