

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

April 24, 2001

MINUTES

The Conejo Valley Unified School District Board of Education met in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, 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. Also present were Jerry C. Gross, Superintendent; Jody Dunlap, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services; Richard W. Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services; and Gary Mortimer, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services. Staff present during the Regular Session included Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, Linda Vranesh, Director, Elementary Education and Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum. **ROLL CALL**

The Closed Session meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Patricia H. Phelps, President. The Board discussed Certificated: Summer School counselors, certificated teachers; Classified: administrative assistant, child care assistants, instructional assistants/Special Education, school office manager, site computer technician, substitutes; Exempt: specialists, student helpers, campus supervisors, proctors, other exempt. The Closed Session meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Session meeting commenced at 7:07 p.m. **CLOSED SESSION**

President Phelps 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**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Del Campo. Student vote: Aye. Motion carried 5-0. **APPROVE AGENDA**

Dr. Gross 1) congratulated Newbury Park High School upon their receipt of an Advanced Placement Challenge Grant from the State of California in the amount of \$30,000. 2) noted that now that Algebra is going to become a requirement for all high school students that middle schools and elementary schools are feeling the impact in their mathematics programs. The March 28 edition of *Education Week* told of kindergarten and first grade students being exposed to Algebraic equations, and 5th graders completing word problems with introductory Algebraic reasoning. 3) congratulated Lindley Yeager-Edkins, Christina Myren, Colleen Briner Schmidt, Jane Traut, Janet Doman, and Sandy Hindy who applied for and received a staff-development grant for a Mathematics Professional Development Institute Plan for California Lutheran University this summer. 4) commented that we seem to have gone from Winter to Summer all in one week! He encouraged principals to be sure to shut down all air conditioning (and heating) units as soon as school closes and not to turn them back on until the morning. 5) noted that last Friday Sacramento Superior Court upheld the State's position regarding regulations governing the Certificated Staff Performance Incentive Act meaning that Certificated Staff at those school showing the greatest gains beyond twice their annual growth target are eligible to receive the award. 6) mentioned that the Westlake High School Advanced Anatomy teacher Nancy Bowman brought her class to the Ventura County Medical **SUPT. REMARKS**

Center. They spent the day observing the staff and programs. 7) congratulated Mary Ann Steele, Conejo Valley High School, for being chosen as the April Teacher of the Month. After the celebration with the Chamber of Commerce at the school, several members of the Chamber Committee commented on the quality of the program offered at Conejo Valley High School, and noted that several community members they spoke with had nothing but praise for the instructional program and staff.

**SUPT.
REMARKS
(CONT.)**

Tim Carpenter, Principal, Redwood Middle School, presented certificates to the Redwood 6th Grade Thinking Cap Quiz Team. Mr. Carpenter mentioned that the Team received 95% correct on the Quiz, and scored 2nd in California on the International Quiz. Mr. Carpenter also thanked Marilyn Zick, team advisor, for spending countless hours preparing the team for the Quiz.

**RECOGNI-
TIONS**

Ron Lipari, Principal, Westlake High School, thanked and congratulated the organization for its many contributions to Westlake High School. He introduced Stephanie Johnson, President, to present certificates of appreciation to the Bingo board members. Mrs. Johnson, who served as President for 11 years, offered several statistics about the bingo organization, including: the organization began in 1983; ran 49 out of 52 weeks during the year for 17 years; operated from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.; was run by volunteers who collectively put in over 82,000 hours; and donated over \$1 million to Westlake High School. The Board members thanked Mrs. Johnson board for their tremendous efforts.

Chuck Eklund, Director, Secondary Education, presented a Certificate of Congratulations to James Martin, Principal, for Conejo Valley and Century High Schools having been chosen as California Model Schools. Mr. Eklund explained that the schools submitted a proposal to the State and was visited by a team, who determined that Conejo Valley and Century were worthy of this recognition. As Model Schools, both Conejo Valley and Century will be visited by other schools across the State to review the programs offered the students. Mr. Eklund also thanked Dr. Gross his encouragement regarding the application.

Dr. Elly Love, Principal, Los Cerritos Middle School, offered a presentation highlighting activities that are working toward the District’s Strategic Plan. These included four objectives: #1—Raising Student Achievement; #2—Comprehensive Technology; #3—Professional Growth; #4—First Class Facilities. Dr. Stephens asked the following questions about Big Rock Camp for At-Risk Students (under Objective #1): Who pays for the individual students to attend the camp? Dr. Love responded that the funds come from the school’s SIP budget. How many students attend? Dr. Love responded around 20 a visit. Do other middle schools in our District attend? Dr. Love replied no. Mrs. Beaubien suggested that other schools be involved in this program. Dr. Stephens asked if students are competent on both PCs and Macs once they complete the technology lab; Dr. Love responded yes, that since the school had opportunities to have both PCs and Macs, they decided that a dual platform was advantageous.

**PRESENTA-
TION**

Beth Doupe, Chairman, Bond Facilities District Advisory Committee, reported on the meeting of April 5, 2001. She commented on the schools which have almost completed their modernization projects: Conejo, Glenwood, Ladera, Meadows, Newbury Park High School, Thousand Oaks High School, Walnut and Weathersfield. All the middle school gyms have foundation and three have at least a wall. The Thousand Oaks High School track has begun, and storm drains have been put in. The Westlake High School pool and tennis courts will begin within a week. Bond DAC reviewed the Independent Accountant’s audit report for the Measure R General Obligation Bond Proceeds Fund for the period ending June 30, 2000. Bond DAC moved to accept the report unanimously. The next meeting for Bond DAC will be May 3, 2001.

**PUBLIC
CONCERNS**

Nick Quidwai again commented that he is not pleased that the School Board meetings are on the same nights at the City Council meetings, that the Board has taken away 40% of the citizens' time by limiting speaking time from 5 minutes to 3 minutes, and that meetings used to be 7:30 p.m., but are now 7:00 p.m. He referenced an agenda from the Conejo Recreation and Park District and pointed out a section, "Items from the Public." He commented again that he did not like the term "Public Concerns" that the School Board lists on their agenda and would prefer this time to be referred to as "Oral Communication." Mr. Quidwai referred to the presentation to Conejo Valley High School and commented about his son's transfer there several years ago. He also presented the Board with a local telephone book and suggested those listed are the answer to a Board member's previous question, "Who are the members of Concerned Citizens of the Conejo?"

**PUBLIC
CONCERNS**

There were no comments from the Board members.

**BOARD
REMARKS**

Mrs. Didio moved to approve Personnel Assignment Orders Certificated #5550 - #5567, Classified #C-0304 - #C-0325 and #E-2477 - #E-2485, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0.

PAO'S

Mrs. Phelps announced the following Summer School assignments:

Kristine Swavely, Summer School Counselor for Summer School 2001 for three (3) days as designed by the Summer School Principal; salary will be 60% of the regular salary rate on Class C, Step E, of the 2000-2001 counselor salary schedule.

Jennifer Marshall, Summer School Counselor for Summer School 2001 for three (3) days as designated by the Summer School Principal; salary will be 60% of the regular salary rate on Class C, Step E of the 2000-2001 counselor salary schedule.

Mrs. Didio moved to amend Policy 501—Equal Employment (Second Reading), seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Mrs. Phelps questioned a title within the text; Dr. Dunlap stated that she would research and correct if appropriate. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #1 filed.

**AMEND
POLICIES**

Dr. Stephens moved to amend Policy 728.6.2—Informal District Meetings (First Reading), seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #2 filed.

Mrs. Del Campo moved to support the conceptual plan of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Conejo and Las Virgenes to develop joint use Club House facilities on the existing four Middle School sites, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Nick Quidwai spoke in favor of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs. Mario Diaz, representing Boys' and Girls' Clubs, was present to answer questions from the Board. Mrs. Del Campo questioned whether a Boys' and Girls' Club would also be built at Sycamore Canyon School once the campus was completed. Mr. Diaz responded that they have considered this and have decided that any middle school that is brought into the system should also have the option of a Boys' and Girls' Club. He said that they would like to be brought into the early development of the site so that the plans for the Club will coordinate well with the plans for the campus. Dr. Stephens questioned whether there would be a steering committee involved with the planning of the projects at the sites. Mr. Diaz commented that there would be site-specific planning for each school. Mrs. Phelps mentioned that a few of the people who worked on the middle school gymnasium committees have offered to help with the Boys' and Girls' Club committee. Mr. Diaz responded that they would be welcomed. Mrs. Didio asked who will work at the Clubs. Mr. Diaz responded that the Clubs will hire full-time and part-time staff, including site personnel who may wish to

**BOYS' &
GIRLS'
CLUBS**

work part-time. Dr. Stephens asked what the timeline will be for a first draft of the plans. Mr. Diaz responded that they have been waiting for the Board approval to begin the conceptual plans to begin the drafts. Mr. Cal Johnston, also representing the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, responded that the conceptual plans should be available in about six months. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #3 filed.

**BOYS' &
GIRLS'
CLUBS**

Mrs. Del Campo moved to expel student 23-00/01E from the Conejo Valley Unified School District effective April 6, 2001, pursuant to the conditions described in the "Voluntary Consent to Discipline" signed and dated April 6, 2001; and readmit student 23-00/01E to the District's Independent Study Program and/or refer to the County's Community School Program; and permit student 23-00/01E to apply for readmission to other programs on or after January 28, 2002, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Nick Quidwai spoke to the issue of expulsions and stated that the Board should consider having a Study Session about expulsions. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #4 filed.

EXPULSION

Mrs. Beaubien moved to adopt Resolution No. 00/01-15 to participate in the America's Schools Symbol Program, seconded by Mrs. Didio. Dr. Stephens asked how much money we expected to received through this program. Mr. Mortimer responded approximately \$30,000. Dr. Stephens asked where the money that would be collected by this program would be allocated. Mr. Mortimer responded that the funds would be placed in a discretionary fund for the Board to determine the expenditures. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #5 filed.

**RESOLUTION
#00/01-15**

Dr. Stephens moved to adopt Resolution No. 00/01-16 authorizing the issuance of the 2001 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Nick Quidwai addressed the Board and stated that he felt that the interest on the TRAN was too high. Ralph Starita stated his concern about the TRAN, asking the Board to respond how this loan would be used. Mr. Mortimer responded that school districts get paid from the State twice a year, yet expenses continue every month, such as payroll. Sometimes cash flow is not available, and in recognition of this, the State has made TRAns available to cover those expenses. The TRAns are sold to private and corporate investors, and an interest rate is established later in the process. The District makes money on the TRAns as the interest rate charged compared to our cost has resulted in a positive cash flow of approximately \$200,000. There is no cost to the community. The Internal Revenue Service audits TRAns each year because the District is not supposed to borrow more money than is required to cover the cash flow needed within the current year. Mr. Mortimer stated that TRAN is an excellent program that the District had been using for several years before he came to our District. Dr. Gross asked if Mr. Mortimer could remember whether the District ever lost money using TRAN. Mr. Mortimer responded no, that the program has always provided cash flow and brought more money into the General Fund. Motion carried 5-0. A.R. #6 filed.

**RESOLUTION
#00/01-16**

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Dr. Stephens. Motion carried 5-0. A.R.'s filed: Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 10, 2001; A.R. #7—Approval of Intent to Participate in Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) Program for Fiscal Year 2001-2001; A.R. #8—Purchase Order Report #583; A.R. #9—Warrant Lists – Items Over \$1,000 for February and March 2001.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

INFORMATION

Dr. Simpson addressed the Board to respond to a question asked at the April 10, 2001, meeting regarding Information Item "Approval of Intent to Participate in Community-Based English Tutoring." Debbie Hamer, ESL Coordinator, Adult School and Coordinator for the Community-Based English Tutoring (CBED) Program for the Adult School, presented

**INFORMA-
TION**

information and background about CBED. The program began in the 1998-99 school year under Board approval, and the program has been ongoing. Approximately \$60,000 is earned each year based on the number of K-12 students in the program. Last Fall, over 150 adult participants agreed to keep tutoring logs as they worked with their children, or other children, while they were also in an English-Language program. Currently the program touches over 200 families and has expanded beyond the elementary schools to include pre-school activities, Many Mansions, and Conejo Creek. Child Care is also provided for the parents, funded through CBED. She stated that the feedback has been extremely positive, and would like to see the program expanded next year. Dr. Stephens asked if they felt that more English was spoken at the homes of those families participating in the program as a result of the program. Mrs. Hamer responded positively.

**INFORMA-
TION**

The Board received information regarding Science Foundation Documents and Textbook and Material Adoption. There were no questions or comments.

The Board received information regarding Foreign Language Foundation Documents and Textbooks and Materials Adoption. There were no questions or comments.

There were no items of Legislation.

LEGIS.

There was no report from the Personnel Commission.

PERS. COMM.

Dr. Simpson announced that two District teachers were chosen as Amgen Teachers of the Year: Janet Doman, University Elementary School, and Kathleen Suskauer, Maple Elementary School. The Board and staff congratulated Ms. Doman and Ms. Suskauer.

Mrs. Didio thanked the Programming Committee for the Educational Television for the Conejo (ETC). She mentioned that they are working hard to provide excellent programming on Channel 21.

President Phelps adjourned the regular session at 8:43 p.m. to reconvene on May 8, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session and 7:00 p.m. for Regular Session.

ADJOURN

Date May 8, 2001 Clerk

Date May 8, 2001 Secretary