

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

November 8, 2005

MINUTES**CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION**

The Board meeting of November 8, 2005, was called to order by President Timothy Stephens at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Stephens asked if there were any public speakers for the Closed Session agenda items; there were none. The Board adjourned into Closed Session at 5:02 p.m., where the following items were discussed:

1. Public Employees
*Pursuant to Government Code §54957
Appointment/Employment/Evaluation of Performance, Leaves of Absence, Retirement,
Discipline, Dismissal*
2. Pending Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code §54957.1(a)(3)
3. Consideration of Pupil Services Matter
Pursuant to Education Code §35146

The Closed Session ended at 5:50 p.m. Dr. Stephens announced that the Board took no formal action during Closed Session.

CALL TO ORDER – OPEN SESSION**OPENING PROVISIONS**

President Stephens called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance. President Stephens welcomed guests and read the procedural announcements.

Present were Board members Dorothy Beaubien, Dolores Didio, Mike Dunn, Pat Phelps, and Dr. Timothy Stephens; Administration: Dr. Richard Simpson, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Services, sat in for Dr. Robert Fraisse, Superintendent, Jo-Ann Yoos, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel Services, Dr. Jeffrey Baarstad, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, Linda Faverty, Director, Elementary Education, Martha Mutz, Director, Curriculum/Media Services, and Sean Corrigan, Director, Planning & Facilities.

Dr. Stephens welcomed and introduced the Student Board Representatives.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the agenda with the following changes: pull Consent Agenda Item P-Award of Contract: Gym & Locker Room Addition – Sycamore Canyon School - as a separate item, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

Presentation to the Board: Debra Bergman, Boeing

Mrs. Bergman presented a \$10,000 grant check for a trainer of trainer program.

Reports from Student Board Representatives

Kelly Feiweles, Westlake High School, sat with the Board. Kelly, along with Kyle Greenberg, Conejo Valley/Century High Schools, Jill Zino, Newbury Park High School, and Morgan Lopker, Thousand Oaks High School, provided the Board with reports from their schools regarding topics such as the new marquee at WHS, homecoming events, guest speakers at assemblies, fundraisers, collections for soldiers in Iraq, Future Business Leaders clubs, school-to-career activities, athletics, Red Ribbon Week activities, newsletter publications, speech tournaments, theater, blood drives, mobile marine lab, new equestrian club at TOHS, and more.

Reports from Support Organizations Leadership

Betsy Connolly, Chairperson, District Advisory Council, stated that the theme for the last meeting was communication and the flow of information from the parent groups to the Board and back down. She thanked Dr. Simpson for giving a report on the budget.

Sue Wells, Conejo Council PTA President, discussed the Council's Parent Education Night, "What's Happening in Our Community" held November 3; the Reflections program; the PTA Program Spotlight at the County offices to share information about successful programs around the county; and introduced Robin Hagey, Westlake High School PTA President, who discussed events and issues at WHS, including the Ed Line Technology program, the school's new website and the "Dancing with Stars" (teachers and students) event.

Dianne McKay, President, Conejo Schools Foundation, discussed a restricted donation to remodel and update the field house at Thousand Oaks High School and how the Foundation can act as a conduit between a school and donor to best meet the needs of both parties. Ms. McKay also mentioned the upcoming annual mail campaign.

Comments from the Superintendent

Dr. Simpson provided information regarding 1) advanced placement program, which identifies four categories of students who receive additional recognition. In general, these are students who have performed very well on multiple AP exams. Our District had 1,227 students take AP exams and 377 of these students (31%) have been identified to receive this additional recognition. We had 178 AP Scholars – students who completed three or more AP exams with a score of 3 or better; 76 AP Scholars with Honors – students who completed four or more AP exams with at least a 3 and an average of 3.25; 112 AP Scholars with Distinction – students who completed five or more AP exams with at least a 3, and an average of 3.5; and finally, 11 AP National Scholars – students who completed eight or more AP exams with an average grade of 4 or higher. 2) NCLB Blue Ribbon: State Superintendent Jack O'Connell has announced that he is recommending 35 California schools for the NCLB Blue Ribbon recognition. Three of the nominated schools are from Ventura County and two are from our District. Redwood Middle School and Newbury Park High School have been nominated and will now go through the application and review process. We look forward to them being designated NCLB Blue Ribbon Schools next fall!

Comments from the Public

Peggy Buckles, Westlake Village, announced that she would be running for the Board of Education in 2006.

John Anderson, Newbury Park, stated his concern that some political issues are being permitted for discussion during public comments, and others are not. He also stated his concerns about the manner in which the Resolution in opposition to Proposition 76 was brought forward for a vote at the last meeting.

Nick Quidwai, Newbury Park, complimented the substance of the meetings of the District Advisory Committee (DAC) and stated his disappointment with the school board in the way they run meetings.

Cathy Carlson, Thousand Oaks, stated that she did not like the term “interpretation” used in the minutes in regard to her comments about the District’s API scores and commented that Redwood Middle School would not be eligible to apply for the NCLB Blue Ribbon due to the foreign language requirement.

Comments from Individual Board Members

Mrs. Beaubien commented on her visits to our schools, and her excitement with her visit to Manzanita Elementary School, and the special student teacher program being offered through Pepperdine University. Mrs. Beaubien also mentioned an article she read in the *Star* in support of vocational programs in the schools.

Mrs. Phelps reported from the meeting of the Conejo Coalition for Youth and Families, which she attends and represents the School Board. The Coalition, which is a joint powers project with the City, Park District and School District, is planning a school readiness forum being taped for Channel 20. They will also have a parenting conference on February 3, 2006, called Celebrate the Family. Mrs. Phelps said that fliers will be out soon in regard to this event.

Mr. Dunn concurred with Mrs. Beaubien’s support of vocational programs, and cited an example from the fire department where having vocational training is important for hiring.

Mrs. Didio expressed her frustration with the lack of funding for Educational Channel 20, especially in regard to the City’s franchise with Adelphia – the School District gets zero! Mrs. Didio commended Nancy Schroeder, Mass Media Instructor at Thousand Oaks High School, for the success with Channel 20 - working with a zero budget! Mrs. Didio asked that the community speak up and ask that some of their money paid to Adelphia be earmarked for Educational Channel 20.

Mrs. Beaubien also thanked Mrs. Schroeder and her students for their work to televise the Board meetings.

Dr. Stephens commended the two schools that have been nominated for the NCLB Blue Ribbon award – Redwood Middle School and Newbury Park High School. He also spoke to the issue of one of the public speakers who constantly makes disparaging comments about the District’s API scores, and mentioned that these negative comments do a disservice to the exceptional teachers and principals, the students, and the parents. Dr. Stephens proceeded with the following report in terms of where the District ranks on API scores in the County and State: the average API score for all 20 elementary schools is 860 – 60 points above the target identified by the State. Of the 13 elementary schools in the

County that scored over 900, our District has 5 of them. Half of our elementary schools are in the top 10% of API scores in the State - out of 5,560 elementary schools. The average for our four middle schools is 869, ranking us 1, 2, 4 and 5 in the County. We are in the top 9% in the State, out of 1,283 middle schools. The average for our high schools is 818 (one increased by 50 API points – Thousand Oaks High School). The rank in the County for our comprehensive high schools is 2, 3, and 4. All of our high schools are in the top 6% in the State out of 1,788 high schools.

ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

Board of Education

A. Consideration of Meeting Date for the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education

Mrs. Beaubien moved to hold the annual organizational meeting of the Board of Education for 2005 on Tuesday, December 13, 2005. The meeting will be held at the District Office, 1400 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, at 6:00 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Nick Quidwai spoke in opposition to the District holding their meeting on that date because the City Council also meets at that time. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

Personnel Services

B. Formal Receipt of the 2005/2006 Proposal for Successor Collective Bargaining Negotiations Submitted by the California School Employees Association, Chapter #620.

Mrs. Phelps moved for formal receipt of the proposal, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

C. PUBLIC HEARING: 2005/2006 Proposal for Successor Collective Bargaining Negotiations Submitted by the California School Employees Association, Chapter #620.

Dr. Stephens opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.; there were no comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:16 p.m.

Instructional Services

D. Approval of Outdoor Education Contract

Mrs. Phelps moved to approve the expenditure of funds as presented in the contract with The Foundation for the Junior Blind, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

E. Approval of Textbook for Math Analysis Honors Class

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the third edition of PreCalculus with Limits, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

F. Approval of Textbook for Career Preparation Class

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the 10th edition of Learning for Earning, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

G. Approval of Textbook for Biology AP

Mrs. Phelps moved to approve the fifth edition of Biology, Concepts and Applications, seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

H. Recommendation of Family Life Materials Review Committee

Mrs. Didio moved to approve the DVD and videotape as recommended by the Family Life Materials Review committee, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

Business Services**I. Authorization for Enrollment Growth Facilities Projects and Policies**

Mrs. Didio moved to authorize administrative staff to implement recommended plans and policies to construct master planned, quality facilities to accommodate projected student enrollment growth, as detailed in the staff report, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. John Anderson, Newbury Park, asked questions about the proposed move of Conejo Valley High School to a new campus on Janss Road, including the District's financial contribution, the square footage of the complex, and proposed enrollment – in light of the fact that Moorpark College may pull from the project. Dr. Baarstad explained that the District has not heard a final action from Moorpark. In the meantime, staff is working to determine what will be needed for a site plan. Mr. Anderson asked about the expense for temporary facilities; Dr. Baarstad stated around \$50,000/year. Cathy Carlson, Thousand Oaks, stated her opposition to the amount of money proposed for such a small population of students being served. Kyle Greenberg, Westlake Village, spoke in favor of the proposed project for a new school for the Conejo Valley High School students. Mr. Dunn stated that he agreed to the modernization projects, but questioned building a core campus for 158 students. He discussed the increases in building costs and current real estate prices, and suggested the Waverly Adult School site be the new site for the continuation school. He is against the district borrowing money for the project, and discussed his proposal. Mrs. Didio provided history on the proposed new site for the continuation school, stating that the school has been waiting for new facilities for over 15 years, well before Moorpark College's offer was in the picture. Mr. Dunn stated that he agrees that the school deserves new facilities, but felt that the Waverly site could accommodate new buildings for the students. Mrs. Beaubien asked what would happen with the current program at the Adult School? Dr. Simpson affirmed the extensive use of the Waverly site, all day into the evening, with a waiting list for many of the classes. He also recounted the traffic issues of the neighbors of the Waverly site several years ago, which the District worked hard to mitigate. He also stated that the population of the school may be 158 students at any give time, but throughout the year, over 450 students attend Conejo Valley High School. Dr. Simpson stated that staff has determined for some time that it is now Conejo Valley High School's turn for new facilities, especially in light of some of the problems with the site due to its age. Dr. Stephens stated that Conejo Valley High has never had first-class facilities, and the staff is looking into top programs for continuation schools that would only work in environments that are conducive to learning. He also restated that we have not heard anything yet from Moorpark College that is solid, and expect to hear something soon. Mr. Dunn asked how much would the District need to borrow to complete the project on the Janss Road site; Dr. Baarstad stated that the window to move forward for planning fall 2006 facilities has to be moved on now, and that the proposal tonight is to borrow \$2-2.5 million just to complete the classroom expansion at Sycamore Canyon School. Motion carried 4-1 (Beaubien, Didio, Phelps, Stephens – aye; Dunn – nay); student vote aye.

ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Mrs. Beaubien moved to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Mrs. Phelps. Mrs. Phelps made a correction in minutes of October 11, 2005: the vote on item A1-Resolution #05/06-08: Opposition to Proposition 76 The California Live Within Our Means Act. The vote should have been recorded as: Motion carried 3-0-1 (Beaubien, Phelps, Stephens aye; Dunn abstain.) Dr. Stephens pointed out that the

teachers' salary schedule is the highest in the County, and stated that this is one of the reasons why we can attract the best and brightest teachers into the District. Motion carried 5-0; student vote aye.

- A. Approval of minutes of Regular Meeting of October 11, 2005 (as amended above); Expulsion Hearing of October 11, 2005, and Board Study Session of October 25, 2005.
- B. Personnel Assignment Orders:
 - 1. Certificated: Teachers
 - 2. Classified: Child Care Assistants, Child Nutrition Assistants, Credentials Technician, Custodians, Paraprofessional, Paraprofessional/Bilingual Spanish, Paraprofessionals/ Special Ed, Pre-School Assistant Teacher, Site Computer Technicians, Substitutes
 - 3. Exempt: Athletic Coaches, Campus Supervisors, Specialists, Student Helpers
- C. Ratification of Contract Agreement with the Conejo Valley Pupil Personnel Association 2005-2008.
- D. Ratification of Negotiated Salary Schedules Under the Contract with the United Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT) for the 2005/2006 School Year.
- E. Ratification of Salary Schedules for Managers, Supervisors, and Confidential Employees for the 2005/2006 School Year.
- F. Ratification of Negotiated Salary Schedules Under the Contract with the Conejo Valley Pupil Personnel Association (CVPPA) for the 2005/2006 School Year.
- G. Expulsions:
 - 1. Conejo Valley High School #05-05/06E
 - 2. Conejo Valley High School #06-05/06E
 - 3. Colina Middle School #07-05/06E
 - 4. Conejo Valley High School #08-05/06E
 - 5. Westlake High School #09-05/06E
 - 6. Westlake High School #10-05/06E
 - 7. Conejo Valley High School #11-05/06E
 - 8. Thousand Oaks High School #12-05/06E
- H. Field Trip by Airplane
- I. Overnight Trip Requests
 - 1. Maple Elementary School
 - 2. Meadows Elementary School
 - 3. Sycamore Canyon School
 - 4. Thousand Oaks High School Choir
 - 5. Thousand Oaks High School Dance Team
 - 6. Westlake High School Choral Music
- J. Parent Support/Booster Organization Reauthorizations
 - 1. Acacia Parent Faculty Association
 - 2. Aspen Parent Faculty Association
 - 3. Conejo School supporters of Conejo Open Program Endeavors
 - 4. Cypress Technology Booster Club
 - 5. Thousand Oaks High School Aquatics Booster Club
 - 6. Thousand Oaks High School Baseball Booster Club
 - 7. Thousand Oaks High School Cheerleader Booster Club
 - 8. Thousand Oaks High School Boys Soccer Booster Club
 - 9. Thousand Oaks High School Softball Booster Club
 - 10. Thousand Oaks High School Boys Volleyball Booster Club
 - 11. Thousand Oaks High School Girls Volleyball Booster Club
 - 12. Thousand Oaks High School Girls Water Polo Booster Club
 - 13. Westlake High School Aquatics Booster Club

14. Westlake High School Band Booster Club
 15. Westlake High School Boys Basketball Booster Club
 16. Westlake High School Girls Basketball Booster Club
 17. Westlake High School Dance Booster Club
 18. Westlake High School Scholarship Booster Club
 19. Westlake High School Softball Booster Club
 20. Westlake High School Boys Volleyball Booster Club
 21. Westlake High School Girls Volleyball Booster Club
- K. Purchase Order Report #673
- L. Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment
- M. Acceptance of Cash and Equipment Donations
- N. Change Orders
- O. Notices of Completion
- P. ~~Award of Contract: Gym & Locker Room Addition—Sycamore Canyon School~~ *Pulled for separate discussion/consideration.*

Agenda item pulled for discussion from the Consent Agenda:

- P. Award of Contract: Gym and Locker Room Addition. Dr. Baarstad discussed the issue regarding meeting the expectations of quality within the given budget. There is a commitment from the State of California for the joint facilities program of \$1.5 million; the City has committed \$1 million; and the District has set aside \$750,000 of Measure R bond money = \$3.25 million. The District designed the project around a \$2.75 million bid, with \$500,000 of soft costs. The bids came in with the lowest \$4 million, which has been deemed a fair bid. There are a couple of options that staff would like the Board to consider: 1) staff is asking the Board to award the bid, contingent upon returning to the December meeting with a strategy to fund the difference prior to the Board actually authorizing the construction documents. By proceeding this way, staff could issue a letter of intent to hold the contractor to that bid. The contractor is willing to stand behind the bid. 2) reject this proposal, and staff will return with a redesigned building, go through the lengthy DSA approval process and spend another \$100,00 in development costs, and go back to bid in about a year with a possible higher bidding climate. 3) if we award the bid and come up with a financial strategy, staff can work with the architect and contractor to try to reduce the scope of the project, and try to save money anyway we can to close the gap in costs. One strategy that will be discussed is to look at the elementary classroom wing at Sycamore Canyon for cost savings, and direct some of that money to the gym construction.

Mrs. Didio moved that the Board award the contract to the recommended contractor specified on the bid summary sheet contingent upon staff coming back at the December 13 meeting with a strategy how the \$1.3 million would be funded; seconded by Mrs. Beaubien. Mr. Dunn asked for the source of the \$750,000 contribution by the District; Dr. Baarstad replied Measure R funds. He stated that the overbid confirmed his concerns about funding modernization projects and just hoped that people recognized that his vote was based upon the fact that he is concerned about property tax or parcel tax. Motion carried 5-0, student vote aye.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Instructional Services

- A. Approval of 2006 Summer School/Extended Year Program. There were no comments.
- B. Approval of District Library Plan. There were no comments.

Business Services

A. 2005-06 First Quarter Financial Statements. Dr. Baarstad provided a presentation, including the announcement that the District has a balanced budget. Mrs. Didio stated her pleasure that Child Care is still operating in “the black,” and would like to look to replacing some of their older portables. She stated that there is a direct correlation between property values and school districts, and it is to the advantage of everyone in the community for us to have a good school district, with good facilities. Nick Quidwai, Newbury Park, congratulated staff for getting rid of deficits, and stated that recurring deficits was not publicized in the past. He also discussed the issue of the district getting tax money due, and thanked Mr. Dunn for his vote on the Janss Road proposal for the continuation school. Dr. Baarstad provided clarification to Mr. Quidwai’s statement regarding the staff not reporting a deficit, and stated that it is important that the Board have confidence in reports that are brought to them. He reminded the Board that similar budget reports have been provided at Board meetings the past two years that that showed that the District was financing a recurring deficit with one-time money, and asking the Board to support that strategy rather than to cut educational programs. Each of the past reports included the information that deficit spending was part of the District’s plan to deal with significant State budget cuts, and that the deficits would be eliminated when the State Budget improved. Dr. Stephens stated that there are probably not a lot of districts in the state that can make the claim heard this evening that for the first time in four years we have a balanced budget. Dr. Stephens commended Dr. Baarstad and his staff.

REPORTS AND CONCERNS

- A. Reports from the Strategic Plan Committees: There were none.
- B. Reports from the Superintendent: There were none.
- C. Reports from the Personnel Commission – There were none.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Stephens adjourned the Open Session at 8:15 p.m. The Board will reconvene on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. for a Board Study Session, which will be open to the public.

January 10, 2006

Date

Clerk

January 10, 2006

Date

Superintendent