



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Regular Board Meeting**  
**June 22, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE**

Board President Angela Cutbill called the Board meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. at the Las Virgenes Unified School District, 4111 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Cutbill  
Linda Menges  
Lesli Stein  
Kate Vadehra

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dallas Lawrence

**BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION REGARDING CALENDARING ASSIGNMENTS AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board Adjourned to Closed Session at 4:38 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session Adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION**

President Cutbill reconvened the Board meeting at 5:50 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Cutbill  
Dallas Lawrence  
Linda Menges  
Lesli Stein  
Kate Vadehra

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Daniel Stepenosky, Superintendent  
Karen Kimmel, Assistant Superintendent of Business  
Dr. Steve Scifres, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Dr. Clara Finneran, Assistant Superintendent of Education  
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Director of Education and Leadership  
Laura Kintz, Director of Elementary Education  
Robbie Amodio, Director of Human Resources  
Angie Falk, Director of Pupil Services  
Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer

**STAFF ABSENT**

None

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director of Human Resources, Robbie Amodio.

## **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

President Cutbill reported that the Board of Education will be considering an amendment to the employment contract with Dr. Dan Stepenosky, as the District's Superintendent, effective July 1, 2021.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved the agenda of June 22, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Dr. Vadehra, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved the Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

On motion of Dr. Vadehra, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

## **STAFF/BOARD COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Stein commented that she had the pleasure of attending the A.E. Wright Middle School culmination. She spoke during the ceremony. It was very emotional seeing the students, faculty and families in person. It was a glorious day. Ms. Stein shared that she also attended the Calabasas High School graduation where Dr. Vadehra gave a wonderful speech. This was a huge celebration and such a joy to be a part of it. Ms. Stein commented that this will be Ms. Amodio's last Board meeting. She thanked Ms. Amodio for her hard work and service over the years. She also thanked everyone in the District for stepping up in a leadership role to accomplish the best during the pandemic. She wished everyone a relaxing summer as this has been an exhausting year and a half.

Mr. Lawrence shared that he attended the Lindero Canyon Middle school culmination. He had the honor of accepting the culminating class. He commented that when he asked the students to rise who received a 4.0 this year, he was amazed at how many students rose to the occasion this year during the most difficult times of the pandemic. He also thanked Ms. Amodio for her service over the years. She has done so much for the District and her shoes will be hard to fill. He shared that he has learned a lot from Ms. Amodio. She will be missed.

Ms. Menges attended the Mariposa culmination. They have a lot of symbolism that they use at Mariposa. It was a real joy and honor to be a part of that. The weather was beautiful which is normally one of the hottest days of the year. She also attended the Agoura High School graduation where Ms. Cutbill gave an outstanding speech. Ms. Menges shared that she will miss Ms. Amodio as well.

Dr. Vadehra wished Ms. Amodio well during her retirement. Ms. Amodio is the District historian as well. She will miss her a lot. Graduation was incredible. She commended the school administrators for their hard work and success. She gave a big shout-out to Dr. Stepenosky, Cabinet, teachers and staff for their hard work this year. Everyone has really stepped up this year and shown courage, wisdom and vision. She thanked everyone for making a huge impact on these students.

Ms. Cutbill shared the same sentiments. Graduations and culminations were amazing this year. To have in person events was incredible. She attended Agoura High School's graduation. It felt extra special this year as Dr. Finneran's daughter was graduating. The site administrators did a phenomenal job of pulling off in person events. The atmosphere was great.

Dr. Stepenosky thanked and honored Mr. Willem Henning for helping to run the vaccination clinics which were outstanding. Dr. Scifres shared that the vaccination clinic on March 3, 2021 vaccinated 1,100 employees. This was such a positive day for staff. Students were then vaccinated at the beginning of May. Dr. Scifres thanked Mr. Henning for his

partnership. Ms. Cutbill presented a Proclamation on behalf of the Board of Education. Our District is indebted to Mr. Henning for his efforts.

Dr. Stepenosky congratulated Ms. Amodio for her 29 years in LVUSD. Cabinet shared a limerick they wrote for Ms. Amodio. The summer reading is Permission to Feel by Dr. Marc Brackett who is a professor at Yale University. Dr. Stepenosky has started reading the book which he stated was phenomenal. Dr. Stepenosky shared that the number one phone call the District receives is about mask wearing. He continued that LVUSD has to follow the guidelines from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). The decision whether students need to wear masks is solely up to CDPH. The District can not make the decision. CDPH has legal authority to dictate what the District does. Dr. Stepenosky does not know what will happen in the fall. LVUSD wants the most normal return in the fall. Mr. Lawrence clarified that CDPH sets the guidelines and then Los Angeles County Department of Public Health enforces the rules. They determine what we can and can not do. If LVUSD does not follow their guidelines, they have the authority to shut down the District. Ms. Stein shared that Sheila Kuehl is our county supervisor. Her office is around the corner on Agoura Road. She encouraged everyone to reach out to her with concerns like LVUSD has done many times before. Dr. Vadehra has also suggested people reach out to their health care provider. Pediatricians have recommended that kids above age 2 who have not been vaccinated should still wear masks.

Dr. Finneran spoke about the Staff Development offered this summer. There are 150 certificated staff that have already signed up for Dr. Gleason's class on Social Emotional Framework. Dr. Gleason is also teaching two other classes: Cognitive Coaching and Adaptive Schools which are 8 day intensive courses. Dr. Finneran is teaching Think Again which is about embracing discomfort. Dr. Scifres is teaching a class about Positive Psychology. Dr. Duncan is teaching a Social Justice class. Valerie Louthian and Hallie Chambers are teaching a course on Energizing Your Core (not body core, but capacity, optimism, and relations core) and Ms. Kintz is teaching Mindset in Math. These courses are taught through Center EdX. The District will be offering more courses during the school year as well.

Dr. Gleason shared a slide of the training being taught this week. Cohort 6 of PASC and Cohort 4 of CASC graduated last week from our Center EdX credential program. Ms. Cutbill accepted the class. We had that event in person which was nice. We now have more than 100 administrators in the community who have graduated from our Center EdX program.

Mr. Klein shared that it has been a busy summer for the tech team. They are working on a lot of projects with relation to the Strategic Plan. The team is switching the infrastructure as well as voice reinforcement in the classrooms. Mr. Klein is confident that the team will get the majority of the work completed this summer. The District will increase internet speeds to be 10 times faster in the fall and working on bringing better tech access to students. He shared that Ms. Tina Johnson has been working with Ms. Kintz on camp LVLeads. Ms. Johnson put together an incredible program for the kids working on social, emotional and academic growth. The Water District came out and worked with the kids on saving water. Every day there is a special activity planned for the students.

Ms. Falk shared that last week the secondary extended school year started at Agoura High School. This week Buttercup and elementary started their extended school year programs along with the summer enrichment program. We currently have about 300 students participating which is a very high number. The attendance rate has been consistent which is wonderful.

Ms. Kintz shared some pictures of the LVLeads program. The program shares the campus of Yerba Buena, Buttercup and the ESY program. The students begin their day with a high interest assembly or presentation. They then continue activities with the theme of with character building, environment, multicultural music and art. Then they go into the classroom and continue with high literacy activities followed by some exercise. The day ends with STEM activities. The students have been very excited and are really enjoying the program.

Ms. Kimmel shared some information about summer projects that are occurring. The maintenance team has started their projects with roof repairs, asphalt and concrete repairs, HVAC repairs, and some painting exterior trim work at Lindero Canyon and Lupin Hill. Unfortunately, some of the projects we had planned for the summer are running into horrible supply chain issues. There are issues with the fencing projects and the marquee at Round Meadow. The White Oak and Chaparral playgrounds most likely won't happen this summer before school starts. It has been very disappointing hearing the news these past few weeks. There will be a new garden at A.E. Wright which is exciting.

Dr. Scifres gave a shout-out to Mr. Craig Hochhaus. This will be his last meeting as LVEA President. He thanked Mr. Hochhaus for all his hard work and dedication over the past 33 years. Dr. Scifres had the pleasure of working with him this year. He learned a lot about him. He is a great advocate for the teachers and the staff at LVUSD. His efforts are

always student centered. He welcomed Darci Miller who will take Mr. Hochhaus' position and Hallie Chambers who will replace Ms. Amodio. He looks forward to working with them.

Ms. Amodio thanked everyone for their good wishes, kind words and support through the years. She is grateful to this Board, Cabinet and staff for their teamwork and collaboration. It has been her honor to serve this District. She feels blessed to have worked for the benefit of students. Ms. Amodio welcomed Ms. Hallie Chambers. Las Virgenes Classified Association (LVCA) and LVUSD have reached tentative agreements during negotiations. The agreement will be on the agenda tonight. Ms. Amodio acknowledged the LVCA and LVUSD bargaining teams.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were three in-person comments. Lesley Whitehouse, Tiffany Wilder and Edward Jaymeson spoke about being against Critical Race Theory and being against student mask mandates in the fall.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - A**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda A, Items 1-10.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

1. Approved Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints as listed on the attached document.
2. Approved Funding for Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs for 2021-2022 as listed on the attached document.
3. Approved Curriculum Council Community Member Appointments 2021-2022 as listed on the attached document.
4. Approved District Booster Clubs as listed on the attached document.
5. Approved Job Description: Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services as listed on the attached document.
6. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22.01 AHS Dance as listed on the attached document.
7. Approved Disposal of Surplus Property as listed on the attached document.
8. Approved Purchase Orders May 1-31 as listed on the attached document.
9. Approved Purchase Orders June 1-15 as listed on the attached document.
10. Approved Communication Sciences and Disorders Intern Agreement - California State University, Northridge as listed on the attached document.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - B**

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda B, Items 1-3.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

1. Approved Rejection of Claim #2108123 v Las Virgenes Unified School District as listed on the attached document.
2. Approved Rejection of Claim #2108124 v Las Virgenes Unified School District as listed on the attached document.
3. Approved Personnel Document as listed on the attached document.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Public Hearing - LVCA Tentative Agreement was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing - LVCA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

Ms. Amodio shared the LVCA Tentative Agreement with respect to language and salary. It is presented tonight for formal approval.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing - LVCA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

2. LVCA Tentative Agreement was presented. Ms. Stein shared how grateful the Board of Education is to the LVCA and LVUSD negotiating teams for their contract agreement. It is wonderful to give the classified staff a salary raise after a very difficult year. Ms. Cutbill also thanked the bargaining teams for their efforts and collaboration.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved LVCA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

3. Public Hearing - LVEA Tentative Agreement was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing - LVEA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing - LVEA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

4. LVEA Tentative Agreement was presented. Ms. Cutbill thanked the LVEA team for their collaboration. She was very pleased that the teachers will receive a much earned salary raise. They worked extremely hard this year. Mr. Lawrence shared that the Board of Education felt that the District needed to recognize the past 12 months. He was very pleased to see the salary increase. He felt it was so deserved. Mr. Lawrence is concerned about being competitive with teacher salaries. We are deficit spending as it is and the way Sacramento is distributing the money, we are at a loss. Our District receives less than LAUSD which makes it difficult to stay competitive. Ms. Menges thanked both teams for their collaboration.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved LVEA Tentative Agreement.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

5. Career Technical Education (CTE) Teacher Request for Salary Adjustment was presented. Dr. Scifres stated that the CTE teachers are not a part of the LVEA Association. There is a separate agreement presented tonight for approval. This will ensure that every employee will receive a salary raise this year.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Career Technical Education (CTE) Teacher Request for Salary Adjustment.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

6. Non-Unit, Non-Management Salary Adjustments was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Non-Unit, Non-Management Salary Adjustments.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

7. Management Salary Adjustments was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Management Salary Adjustments.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

8. Consideration/Action Regarding Extension/Amendment of Superintendent Contract was presented. Ms. Cutbill shared that our Superintendent's salary was not competitive among the other 21 School Districts. This new amendment will allow the contract to be competitive. The amendment also extended the contract for an additional year.

On Motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Consideration/Action Regarding Extension/Amendment of Superintendent Contract.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

9. Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators was presented. Dr. Scifres stated that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing requires each Board of Education to approve, in public session, a Declaration of Anticipated Needs in terms of staffing vacancies in which emergency credentials may apply to regular teaching positions or long term substitute positions.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

10. Budget Adjustments - 2020-21 Fiscal Year was presented. Ms. Kimmel presented this budget during the last Board meeting two weeks ago. It is for Board approval tonight.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved Budget Adjustments - 2020-21.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

11. Budget Adoption was presented. Ms. Kimmel stated that nothing has changed from the last meeting when the Budget was presented. The revise will come in 45 days after the Governor's Budget has been adopted. Current enrollments will not affect this budget. There is always a one-year lag time.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved Budget Adoption.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

12. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) was presented. Dr. Gleason shared that we had a public hearing during the last Board meeting. This is being brought for formal adoption tonight. Ms. Cutbill shared the five goals of the LCAP: Goal 1: College and Career, Goal 2: Opportunity and Equity, Goal 3: Whole Child, Goal 4: Professional Capacity, and Goal 5: Social Justice.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Local Control Accountability Plan.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

13. MOU: Elementary Bell Schedule was presented. Ms. Kintz shared under the site-based decision making Article In the LVUSD certificated Contract, the teachers at elementary schools have voted to approve slightly modified schedules. These schedules allow for a floating minimum day and two days of instructional minutes over the state minimum. The school site teams approved the changes so that if there were two days of no school due to fire or smoke the schools would not need to make up the instructional minutes if the State of California does not allow for this flexibility. These changes provide for a floating minimum day if the last day of school is not a Wednesday, which is a right found within the LVEA-LVUSD bargaining unit agreement.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved MOU: Elementary Bell Schedule.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

There were no information items.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

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Date Approved

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President, Board of Education