



BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
October 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE

Board President Angela Cutbill called the Board meeting to order at 4:42 p.m. at the Las Virgenes Unified School District, 4111 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Angela Cutbill
Dallas Lawrence
Linda Menges
Lesli Stein
Dr. Kate Vadehra, M.D.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION REGARDING CALENDARING ASSIGNMENTS AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board Adjourned to Closed Session at 4:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session Adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION

President Cutbill reconvened the Board meeting at 5:45 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Angela Cutbill
Dallas Lawrence
Linda Menges
Lesli Stein
Kate Vadehra, M.D.

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, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services
Laura Kintz, Director of Elementary Education
Hallie Chambers, Director of Human Resources
Angie Falk, Director of Pupil Services (participated remotely)
Agoura High School Student Representative, Bella Bernt (observed the meeting in the audience)
Calabasas High School Student Representative, Willow Gaven (participated on the dais)

STAFF ABSENT

Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member, Lesli Stein.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

President Cutbill reported that the Board of Education took no specific action in Closed Session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved the agenda of October 26, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

STAFF/BOARD COMMUNICATION

Calabasas High School Student Representative, Willow Gaven, shared that Calabasas High School and Agoura High School are enjoying a very spooky Halloween season. CHS is doing a Boo Sales to raise money for the sophomore class. AHS has started their Halloween Spirit Week. This will lead up to dress up day on Friday and their last home football game of the year. AHS Student Representative Bella Bernt created a District Office box so that students could provide input on how to make things better. Ms. Bernt also visited Lindero Canyon Middle School to get feedback from the students. There was an overwhelming amount of positive comments. Next week CHS will have their Homecoming Pep Week ending with their Homecoming Football game and dance.

Ms. Stein stated that her and Ms. Cutbill visited Agoura High School. They saw and listened to beautiful music being played outside. She shared how amazing it is to see how everyone has adapted. She thanked Ms. Kimmel and Facilities for providing a tent for shade. It is fabulous to see the students thriving. Ms. Stein and Ms. Cutbill visited the Social Justice class which is a brand new elective being offered this year. The principal and the teacher left them alone with the students. It was wonderful. They learned so much. The students were not shy about expressing how much they are enjoying the class. They also visited the Sports Medicine class and saw the new AnatomageTable, which is an Anatomy and Virtual Dissection Platform. It is basically a virtual cadaver table. It is very interesting. There is a skeleton on the table and everything works by touch. Each skeleton comes with a story about who they are how they died, etc. If they died by cancer or by illness, the students can go into the skeleton and examine. Ms. Stein and Ms. Cutbill joined Dr. Stepenosky for his PASC class for aspiring administrators. It is always interesting to see administrators from within our district and outside our district and listen to the discussions and questions they have.

Dr. Vadehra participated in the Pediatric webinar where they discussed Covid and the impact on kids. One of the speakers shared that the data coming in is looking very good. They shared about how in March 2021, LAUSD students were safer in school than if they were not in school. They were actually talking about our District (LVUSD) because we were in school during March. LAUSD was not in person at that time. Dr. Vadehra is excited to visit school sites and see our RULER Program which is our social and emotional awareness program. She thanked and recognized our teachers and staff that are working with students. She recognized how hard they have worked.

Mr. Lawrence shared that recently they had a great Finance Committee meeting. He is still so impressed with the work that we do. It is extremely impressive to see what our team has done. He reminded people that the finances for our district are so complicated. Even though we are a high-performing District, we bring in 50% less per student from the state than other districts. We are able to provide a high-quality education to our students and balance the books. Credit goes to our amazing Finance team.

Ms. Menges attended Westlake Village City celebration where Agoura High School and Lindero Canyon Middle School Jazz bands performed. It was a fabulous day. The weather could not have been better. She was able to visit with several of our Westlake Village City council members. Ms. Menges was also able to meet with both band directors at

Agoura High School and Lindero Canyon Middle School. Last weekend, The Foundation held their Carnival. Things are slowly getting back to normal. She was able to visit with some members of the board for The Foundation. They tried a few new things this year like the Beer and Wine Garden. They also have a few Family Photo Opportunities during several weekends in October and November. The price is \$45 per family. The pictures will be taken by Dana Rubin Photography.

Ms. Cutbill forewent comments.

Dr. Stepenosky shared that he received a very special email about Agoura High School Senior, Charles Kindelt, who received a perfect score on his AP Computer Science Principles exam! He is 1 out of only 335 students in the world who have received a perfect score. Dr. Stepenosky congratulated Charles. Our Town is coming to the Agoura High School PAEC on November 3-6, 2021. To attend, you need to show proof of a negative Covid test or your vaccination card. You can be tested on Tuesdays at Agoura High School from 5:30pm to 6:45pm, Wednesdays at Calabasas High School from 5:30pm to 6:45pm, or Thursdays at the District Office from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Dr. Gleason shared that wind instruments are now able to be played inside per Los Angeles County Department of Public Health guidelines. They have not released any new updated guidelines for singing. Singing will still be performed outside. Hopefully with the days getting shorter and the weather getting colder, new guidelines will come soon.

Dr. Finneran shared that the Carnival was a really fun experience. She also had a great time celebrating Dr. Stepenosky at SoFi Stadium. The 4th through 12th grade students are taking the Rally assessments, which are our social emotional assessments. Once we receive the data, we will compare it to last year's data and report back.

Ms. Chambers shared that we recognized our Child Nutrition Department on Monday in honor of National School Lunch Week. Cabinet members delivered cookies to each of the sites to thank the Child Nutrition team for all they do for our students and staff.

Ms. Kintz shared that she was wowed yesterday by a RULER lesson from Ms. Jeremiassen's 5th grade class at Willow. Two students were speaking of their social emotional well-being. The students learned two new emotions and wrote about their mood in their journals.

Dr. Scifres shared that on November 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. we will celebrate our exemplary employees with their Service Awards. This will be held at the Agoura High School PAEC. This year we are fortunate enough to do it in person since last year it was virtual. We will celebrate Dr. Stepenosky for his 15 years of service. It should be a lot of fun. We will also be celebrating our Employees of the Year. Congratulations to Certificated Employee of the Year, Dana Dixon, who works as A.E. Wright, and our Classified Employee of the Year, Jean Sutherland, who works at Bay Laurel.

Ms. Kimmel stated that we will also be celebrating Dr. Scifres for his 15 years of service. Ms. Kimmel also shared that cabinet was able to join Dr. Stepenosky at SoFi Stadium on Friday for the Superintendent's Forum put on by Los Angeles County. The county planned a fun day for us. We toured the stadium, the locker rooms and went onto the field. It was a really fun day. Dr. Stepenosky got his #1 Rams Jersey with his name on the back. It was a very nice recognition. Cabinet is very proud of our Superintendent.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were no comments from the audience on items not on the agenda.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Ruler and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Implementation Overview was presented. Dr. Gleason thanked Dr. Vadehra. She brought the RULER and Social Emotional Learning System to our District. Over the past five years, LVUSD has had a strong focus on both academic achievement and the development of a whole child focus. With respect to student wellness and social-emotional learning, these efforts have led to the development of a TK-12 Counseling Center, the expansion of TK-5 counseling, the development of wellness counseling at the high schools, the addition of Visual and Performing Arts specialists in grades TK-5, the adoption of standards in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion, the use of data through both Rally and the California Healthy Kids Survey to ensure we are meeting all students' needs, and the transitional shift to restorative discipline models. This framework, called RULER, supports students in understanding how to recognize, label, understand and regulate their emotions. Emerging research informs us that this focus is important for success in nearly every aspect of our lives—for attention, memory, and learning, for making and keeping friends, for healthy decision-making, and for our overall wellbeing.

Ms. Kintz shared that emotional intelligence is understanding emotions and knowing what to do with them. Emotions need to be expressed and regulated. The RULER framework will help us understand what to do with the emotions. Students are born to learn. Language helps their brain learn in early childhood.

Dr. Gleason shared the RULER skills: Recognizing emotions in oneself and others, Understanding the causes and consequences of emotions, Labeling emotions with a nuanced vocabulary, Expressing emotions in accordance with cultural norms and social context, Regulating emotions with helpful strategies.

Ms. Kintz stated that approximately 50 faculty/staff completed the RULER course over the summer. Ms. Skidmore was one of those that completed the course. Ms. Kintz, Principal Jorns, and Principal Logan are teaching the course now to other principals. Leaders have emerged to lead and incorporate the work and coach others.

Principal Jorns, Principal Logan, Principal Reynolds, and Ms. Skidmore shared how they have incorporated the RULER system at their schools and in the classroom. Teachers have encouraged students to express how they are feeling throughout the day. Plus, if the students feel angry or sad, the teachers can give them resources to help with those emotions. The counselors have had a high impact with the students. Principal Reynolds shared how much this system has helped staff. It is important to understand how you feel. Ms. Skidmore shared that once she incorporated the system in class, she created a chart for the students to bring home to their parents. The students explained the chart to their parents. This would allow parents to help with emotions at home. This program is teaching real world lessons which is so important for kids.

2. Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Expansion Overview was presented. Dr. Gleason shared that Senate Bill 130 (2021) establishes a four-year roadmap of progressive expansion of Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) for all students who turn four by September 2nd effective during the 2025-2026 school year. Over the course of each of the next four years, the eligibility window for TK will increase by two months until 100% eligibility for four-year-olds is reached in the 2025-2026 school year. All districts in California are in the very initial planning stages around this expansion. As LVUSD prepares for this expanded enrollment, there are considerations for preschool, facilities, staffing, and communication.

Ms. Valerie Louthian stated that with TK expanding to all four-year-olds by 2025-26, our District needs to prepare for this transition on the teacher development, facilities and fiscal fronts.

Ms. Kintz stated that TK expansion will be transformational in early childhood education. It will also address the achievement gap by ensuring equity and access to high-quality preschool. The impacts will be long-lasting. Our district will need teacher recruitment and training to ensure low student-teacher ratios.

Ms. Louthian shared the timeline for TK expansion which showed that all four-year-old students will be eligible for TK by 2025-26.

Ms. Kintz stated that LVUSD has already implemented the requirements for teachers to teach TK. All TK teachers will require an ECE Permit, which involves 24 additional units of instruction, beginning in 2023.

Dr. Gleason shared that EdX could offer the ECE 24 unit program to internal and external candidates with 6 courses taught by LVUSD faculty and by using a Grant funded by Educator Effectiveness Funds. The approval of Grant funds would need to be by December 2021. Ms. Stein asked how long would the six courses (24 units) take a teacher to complete? Dr. Gleason stated the 6 courses (24 units) would be a one-year program. Currently, our District has one ECE Permit teacher. There will be an impact on Buttercup as this is tuition based TK. Once it becomes universal, the tuition will subside. Plus Buttercup is the only Special Ed TK program that the District offers. We then must look at how this impacts the District. We can add 3-year-olds to the mix. There will be challenges. These issues will be discussed during all committees such as Curriculum, Pathway, Finance, and Facilities Committees. Dr. Gleason thanked Ms. Kintz and Ms. Louthian for the hard work they have done with this TK transition.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - A

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda A, Items 1-2. Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

1. Approved Disposal of Surplus Property as listed on the attached document.

2. Approved Purchase Orders as listed on the attached document.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - B

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda B, Items 1-5.
Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

1. Approved Personnel Document as listed on the attached document.
2. Approval of Rejection of Claim as listed on the attached document.
3. Approval of Discipline Settlement Agreement in Disciplinary Case No.21-22.03 as listed on the attached document.
4. Approval of Expulsion of Student in Disciplinary Case 21-22.04 as listed on the attached document.
5. Approval of Settlement Agreement in Disciplinary Case No. 21-22.05 as listed on the attached document.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Hearing: LVEA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD was presented.

On Motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing: LVEA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing: LVEA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

2. Tentative Agreement with LVEA was presented. Dr. Stepenosky shared his appreciation for our 1,100 employees. He thanked LVEA for their partnership. He thanked Dr. Scifres and Ms. Kimmel for their hard work with LVEA. Dr. Scifres commended Ms. Darcy Miller from LVEA. This is the first item under her leadership. Dr. Scifres shared this agreement is for this year only. The process of going out to proposal for next year will allow different insurance companies to bid. Dr. Scifres shared that we found out in August 2021 that there would be a 23.2% price increase to PERS Gold and an 11.49% increase to PERS Premium Choice. Ms. Kimmel shared that we have received refunds from Delta Dental, which is a self-funded program. We deposited those refunds in a special account. We used the funds in that account to cover this cost increase.

On Motion of Dr. Vadehra, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Tentative Agreement with LVEA.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

3. Public Hearing: LVCA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD was presented.

On Motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing: LVCA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing: LVCA Tentative Agreement with LVUSD.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

2. Tentative Agreement with LVCA was presented. Ms. Chambers stated that LVUSD has worked with LVCA to help cover the cost increases for our employees. Cost is based on demographics. There are 67% of classified employees that are considered part-time therefore the demographics are different. The fiscal agreement is different from LVEA as those certificated employees are mostly full-time. She thanked the LVCA team for their collaboration, especially Elaine Gottfried Ullman and Vince Marquez.

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

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Date Approved

President, Board of Education