



BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
November 9, 2021

EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AWARDS

The Board of Education, along with Cabinet, recognized and thanked LVUSD employees with 15 years or more of extraordinary service to the District. The award ceremony took place at the Agoura High School Performing Arts Education Center, 28545 W. Driver Ave. Agoura Hills, CA.

CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE

Board President Angela Cutbill called the Board meeting to order at 5:36 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 5:37 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session Adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION

President Cutbill reconvened the Board meeting at 6:03 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
Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer
Agoura High School Student Representative, Bella Bernt (participated on the dais)
Calabasas High School Student Representative, Willow Gaven (observed the meeting in the audience)

STAFF ABSENT

None

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 November 9, 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 Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes 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

STAFF/BOARD COMMUNICATION

Dr. Scifres recognized and congratulated our two Certificated Employees of the Month: Anika Asmerian, Counselor, Mariposa School of Global Education; and Jessica Guenther, Counselor, Yerba Buena Elementary School. He also recognized and congratulated our Classified Employee of the Month: Marilyn Ehrman, Office Manager, Yerba Buena Elementary School. Dr. Roderick spoke about her two Employees of the Month; Jessica Guenther and Marilyn Ehrman. Ms. Cutbill, on behalf of the Board of Education, congratulated and thanked Ms. Guenther and Ms. Ehrman for all they do for our kids and our District. She presented each employee with an Apple trophy engraved with their name. Leslie Martinez, Principal of Mariposa Global School of Education, spoke about her Certificated Employee of the Month, Anika Asmerian. Ms. Cutbill, on behalf of the Board of Education, congratulated and thanked Anika Asmerian for all she does for our kids and our District. She presented Ms. Asmerian with an Apple trophy engraved with her name.

Dr. Stepenosky introduced Charles Kindelt who is an Agoura High School Senior. Dr. Stepenosky received an email from Dr. McClay, Agoura High School Principal, indicating that Charles received a perfect score on the Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles exam. Every year, 116,000 students take this exam. Out of that, 335 students in the world receive a perfect score. Dr. Stepenosky stated that Charles has a 5.0 GPA. He congratulated Charles and his parents. Ms. Cutbill congratulated Charles on behalf of the Board of Education.

Ms. Cutbill shared that the California Board Association offers a course called Masters in Governance. The course is comprised of five sections. Dr. Vadehra started this course once she joined the Board and has now completed this course. This course is long and challenging. Ms. Cutbill congratulated Dr. Vadehra on this achievement. Dr. Stepenosky shared that Dr. Vadehra received a certificate for completing this course. He thanked and congratulated Dr. Vadehra. Dr. Vadehra thanked Ms. Bergstrom for her help in scheduling the classes.

Ms. Bella Bernt, Agoura High School Student Representative, shared that Agoura High School had their last home game of the year. Unfortunately, they lost the game. AHS students remained positive and were pleased with their football season. AHS also performed their Fall Play, Our Town, which was a fabulous show put on by their theater department. AHS had their World of Dance performance put on by their dance department. Link Crew is hosting the Freshman Movie Night tomorrow. Everyone is welcome. This week, AHS is selling Thankful Holiday Grams where

students can write kind messages to their peers, friends and teachers. Ms. Bernt created a link on the ASB website to the Board of Education to allow students access to the meeting minutes. Calabasas High School is getting ready for their Senior Spaghetti Night on November 10, 2021. Their theater department is in tech week for their Fall Play, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) which will show November 16-20, 2021.

Ms. Stein stated that earlier tonight prior to this Board meeting, the Board of Education and Cabinet attended the Extraordinary Employee Service Awards at the Agoura High School PAEC. We celebrated employees that have worked in the district anywhere from 15 to 35 years. It was a wonderful celebration of excellence and service by our employees. Ms. Stein and Ms. Cutbill attended Agoura High School's Fall Play, Our Town. This was the first indoor live performance in LVUSD in the last 18 months. The play was wonderful. The students did a fabulous job. There were safety precautions taken. Everything was flawless. Ms. Stein and Dr. Vadehra visited Sumac Elementary. It was wonderful to see all the wonderful things happening at Sumac. Ms. Stein congratulated Dr. Vadehra for completing the Masters in Governance program. Completing Masters in Governance demonstrates your commitment to effective Board Governance and understanding the role of a Board Member and the operations of a school district. Normally it is a two-year program when it is held in person. This accomplishment reflects your dedication to serving at the highest level and your commitment to continuing education. Mrs. Stein pointed out that four members of the Board have completed the Master's in Governance program.

Dr. Vadehra thanked everyone for their kind words. She stated that one take away from the program was that being a Board member is a group effort. You serve on the Board for the purpose of fulfilling the needs of every student in the District. There is no "I" when serving on the Board of Education. As a physician, Dr. Vadehra was so proud that our District will hold a vaccination clinic for children ages 5 to 11 this Saturday, November 13, 2021. Next week, we will host a webinar called An Unprecedented Disruption: How to Support Adolescents Through a Pandemic. Dr. Jennifer Silvers from UCLA will speak on this important topic.

Ms. Menges thanked our employees for their longevity and determination to our District. She also attended the Fall Play, Our Town at Agoura High School. This event brought the community together. Ms. Menges also visited Sumac Elementary for Dia De Los Muertos where she met Mr. Lawrence. This was an event where every grade level chose a country and decorated a display from that country. Ms. Menges congratulated Dr. Vadehra on completing the Masters in Governance program.

Mr. Lawrence stated that next year we should invite the media to Sumac Elementary for this special event, Dia De Los Muertos. He felt the display was stunning. This event really showcased the students.

Ms. Cutbill forewent her comments.

Dr. Stepenosky shared that the Los Angeles Rams visited Round Meadow Elementary. Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Menges attended. That was a joyous event. They came to celebrate the Heroes for the Holidays where the students wrote letters to the military personnel that won't be with their families over the holidays. The Rams mascot along with some players and the cheerleaders attended. As previously mentioned, we have a vaccine clinic this Saturday for ages 5 to 11. We have partnered with Albertsons Sav-On Pharmacies for our vaccine clinic. There are one thousand doses available. We have expanded our Covid-19 testing to all five secondary schools. The link to make an appointment is www.healthcheck.lvusd.org. The testing is through Malibu Medical Group. Dr. Stepenosky shared that live theater is back. Last week was Our Town at Agoura High School and in two weeks, Calabasas High School will host The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged). Talking about vaccines, we do not make the rules. We follow the rules of the following three agencies: Los Angeles Department of Public Health, California Department of Public Health and the Governor's Office. The Los Angeles County's infectious rate and positivity rate numbers are climbing. This is a good time to get your flu shot as the holidays are approaching. If you would like to get in touch with our State Assembly members you can contact Jesse Gabriel for Calabasas, Richard Bloom for Agoura, Jacqui Irwin for Westlake Village and our State Senator, Henry Stern.

Cabinet forewent comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

There were several public comments. Rina Nehdar, Stephanie Matz, and Mika Shoemaker spoke about systemic student discrimination against unvaccinated students. Rachel Russell spoke on the discriminating testing policy of band students. Sharon Davida introduced Dr. Lisa Wahlestedt who spoke about how the vaccine does not stop the transmission of Covid-19 and about how testing asymptomatic students can create false positives. Yvet Chambers spoke about studies that show masking does not work and testing can create false positives. Lori Calabrese spoke about mandating parent volunteers to be vaccinated is discrimination.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - A

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda A, Items 1-4.

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 Assignment and Assumption of Lease as listed on the attached document.
2. Approved Warrants as listed on the attached document.
3. Approved Disposal of Surplus Property as listed on the attached document.
4. Approved Purchase Orders as listed on the attached document.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - B

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda B, Item 1.

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.

ACTION ITEMS

1. California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly Nomination was presented.

The Board of Education took no action on California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly Nomination.

2. New Job Description: Coordinator of Academic and Behavioral Interventions was presented. Ms. Falk stated that LVUSD has received a grant to be used for learning and social-emotional gaps. Under the direction of the Administrative Services Department, the Coordinator of Academic and Behavioral Interventions will be responsible for coordinating Academic and Behavioral Interventions with a team of specialists. The Coordinator will assist in all matters pertaining to the implementation of pre-referral academic and behavioral interventions. This item has gone through the Pathways Committee and LVEA's Round Table. The plan is to get all students back on track by Grade 3. The plan will be implemented by creating the Coordinator of Academic and Behavioral Interventions who will be supported by a Special Education Teacher, a Behavior Specialist, and an Academic Interventionist. These four positions will support the classroom teacher through training, tools and modeling. Data collection will be on going to determine the effectiveness of the District's learning loss plan. Ongoing progress monitoring and data reporting will occur through the Pathway and Safety and Wellness Committees.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved New Job Description:

Coordinator of Academic and Behavioral Interventions.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Interventions and Data Snapshot was presented. Dr. Stepenosky shared that we are starting to get some academic data to see how our students faired during the pandemic. Closing schools was hard on students. We are seeing better results here in our District then in other districts across the nation.

Dr. Finneran shared some basic information about the data trends we have experienced. There are four important questions that we ask ourselves: 1. What do we want students to learn? 2. How do we know they have learned it? 3. How do we respond when they have not? 4. How do we respond when they have? The District looks at a lot of different data. Tonight, we will cover RenStar, Attendance and D/F Rates. There is other data that we will cover at a later time such as CAASP data, Rally data which is the social-emotional piece, and IB and AP data. RenStar is a quarterly assessment which is known as a universal screener. Used in grades 1 through 12 for ELA and Math. The results are issued as a norm-referenced score, a percentile rank, which ranks the students compared to other students in the same grade nationally. More than 34,000 schools use these assessments. There has been an Average Percentile Rank (PR) decline in grades 2-8 compared to pre-pandemic. For ELA, there is a 4 PR decline, and for Math, there has been an 11 PR decline. For LVUSD, ELA was 1 PR decline, and Math was 6 PR decline, which was less than educators were

anticipating. Attendance was excellent during the 2020-21 school year. Approximately 7% of the students were absent for more than nine days. This number is very close to our normal attendance rate. When students are absent, we try to get to the root cause of their absence. After we have exhausted all of our efforts we will usually refer the student to SARB, which is the Student Attendance Review Board. It required by law. Usually 20 students are sent to SARB per year. During a SARB hearing a plan of action is determined to assist the student with their attendance. This process has been very effective. The other process is looking at the D/F Rates among students. These are students who have more than one D or F. This is where our intervention would take place. And administrator or counselor would meet with the student and family. They would devise a plan to help improve the students' grades. Regular follow-ups would exist with the student and family. Each plan is individualized. We know that coaching and collaboration is important to learning. We continue to offer professional development for our teachers and staff.

Ms. Kintz shared that we have full-time intervention specialists at every elementary school. This allows for site data and grade data analysis conversations and actions. Intervention groups are carefully developed. Student progress is monitored. For elementary students, we have two strong programs: Symphony Math and Lexia Reading. These programs are computer adopted and teacher supported. These programs pre-teach and re-teach lessons which are extremely helpful to elementary students. There are teacher taught lessons as well. These programs are really high interest for students. The programs are very effective. Counselors seem to be very effective with intervention as well.

Dr. Finneran shared that coaching and collaboration are very effective to teaching and learning. We will continue teacher efficacy offering professional development including Cognitive Coaching, Adaptive Schools, building partnerships with universities, and partnering with social emotional experts. We will continue to expand by using the \$2.4m Educator Effective Grant through 2025-26. The plan for the expenditure will go through several Board Committees, LVEA, LVCA, and site groups.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 07 p.m.

Date Approved

President, Board of Education

EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE AWARDS

The Board of Education recognized and thanked LVUSD employees with 15 years or more of extraordinary service to the District.