



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Reorganization/Regular Board Meeting**  
**December 14, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE**

Board President Angela Cutbill called the Board meeting to order at 4:54 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

**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 (observed in the audience)  
Calabasas High School Student Representative, Willow Gaven

**STAFF ABSENT**

None

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Cornelio Ash spoke about the Level III complaint.

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board Adjourned Reorganization Session at 5:01 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER REORGANIZATION SESSION**

President Cutbill reconvened the Board meeting at 5:46 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Willow Elementary School Teacher, Brittany Stone.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved the agenda of December 14, 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

## **ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION**

### **A. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education appointed Dr. Stepenosky, District Superintendent, as temporary Chairman of the meeting.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

### **B. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT ANGELA CUTBILL**

Dr. Stepenosky shared the many certificates that came for outgoing President, Angela Cutbill: one from California Congressman, Ted Lieu, Agoura Hills Mayor, Denis Weber, and California State Senator, Henry Stern. Dr. Stepenosky shared his appreciation for Ms. Cutbill's leadership over the past year. Ms. Cutbill's leadership supported LVUSD having the lowest class size in LVUSD history, full-time counselors at every TK through 5 school, full-time Visual and Performing Arts teachers at each elementary, an expanded District Counseling Center, and accreditation of the three programs through Center EdX. Ms. Cutbill has so much compassion for students and staff. He presented an engraved decanter on behalf of Cabinet.

Ms. Stein stated that the health and safety of the students and staff were always on the forefront of Ms. Cutbill's mind. She has been an extremely calm leader. She kept the Board focused with kindness and humility. She has been an effective communicator, responding to 9,000 emails over the past year. She has been a relationship builder and fosterer. Ms. Stein thanked Ms. Cutbill for her time and commitment. She stated that she was grateful to serve on the Board with her. Ms. Stein presented Ms. Cutbill with a gift on behalf of the Board of Education.

Dr. Vadehra agreed with all that Ms. Stein said. Ms. Cutbill led with kindness, compassion and courage. Dr. Vadehra thanked Ms. Cutbill for her support and leadership. She stated that Ms. Cutbill is such a blessing to the District.

Ms. Menges shared that Ms. Cutbill has been an advocate for students at the local level as well as at the state and federal level. She has made sure that all voices have been heard. She has been an excellent spokesperson for the Board. Ms. Cutbill is an excellent public speaker. Ms. Menges thanked Ms. Cutbill for all she has done for our District and all that she will continue to do.

Mr. Lawrence shared that he has really enjoyed serving on the Board with Ms. Cutbill for the past eight years. He has had the privilege of being her Vice President twice. Ms. Cutbill has been an extremely effective communicator. Mr. Lawrence thanked Ms. Cutbill for her leadership and shared his appreciation.

Ms. Cutbill thanked Cabinet and the Board for their support this past year. She thanked our staff and teachers. She shared how proud she was at the fact that when things were at their worst, everyone was at their best. At the beginning of the pandemic, Ms. Cutbill was concerned about the students loss of academics. As the pandemic progressed, she became concerned about the student's overall wellbeing. Ms. Cutbill has been so appreciative of the caring she has seen from parents, staff, teachers and students. She is so proud to be a part of LVUSD.

### **C. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### **1. PRESIDENT**

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, it was moved that Dr. Kate Vadehra be elected President of the Board of Education.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

#### **2. VICE PRESIDENT**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Cutbill, it was moved that Ms. Linda Menges be elected Vice President of the Board of Education.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

### **3. CLERK**

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Ms. Cutbill, it was moved that Ms. Lesli Stein be elected Clerk of the Board of Education.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

### **PRESIDENT ASSUMED CHAIR**

Newly elected President Vadehra assumed the chair to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

### **D. CONSENT - REORGANIZATION**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education approved Consent - Reorganization, Items 1-21.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

### **ADJOURNMENT OF REORGANIZATION SESSION**

The Board Adjourned Reorganization Session at 6:00 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION**

President Vadehra reconvened the Board meeting at 6:01 p.m.

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Cutbill

Dallas Lawrence

Linda Menges

Lesli Stein

Dr. Kate Vadehra, M.D.

Agoura High School Student Board Member, Bella Bernt (observed in the audience)

Calabasas High School Student Board Member, Willow Gaven

### **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

### **STAFF ABSENT**

None

### **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

President Vadehra reported that during closed session, the Board of Education voted 5:0 to approve the Waiver of Student Expulsion Hearing and Stipulated Suspended Expulsion Agreement signed and dated December 3, 2021 for Case No. 21-22.10. The Board of Education also voted 5:0 to uphold the Level II response from the staff dated November 5, 2021.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education approved the Board Meeting Minutes 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

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education approved the Virtual Special Board Meeting Minutes of December 1, 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 Board Member, Willow Gaven, shared that both high schools have had an amazing year. They are looking forward to the upcoming winter break. AHS had their winter spirit week and outside pep rally last week. They also had their Coffee Night which featured many talented AHS performers. Ms. Bernt sent out a school wide vote for their vending machines. Plus AHS finished their Holiday Drive for toys and non perishable foods. On Friday, AHS will host a new event called Freshman Frost, where freshman students will sell hot chocolate to the student body. CHS is in the middle of their dodgeball tournament with teams consisting of both students and teachers. Following the success of their NOVA Food Drive where they donated over 2,000 pounds, CHS is continuing their success with an NHS Toy Drive. They also capped off Native American Heritage Month with a touching video honoring the history of the people. Ms. Gaven set up a Town Hall with administration to get feedback from students about issues and concerns on campus. Ms. Gaven and Ms. Bernt attended the CSBA Conference, where they shared information with other student board members across California. This helped them to understand their role as student members serving on the Board.

Ms. Stein shared that it has been a busy few weeks. She has visited the elementary schools to see the full-time counselors, the visual and performing arts teachers, and the RULER program. Ms. Stein visited Mariposa, Lupin Hill, White Oak, Buttercup/Yerba Buena, and Bay Laurel. Tomorrow, she will visit Chaparral to read to the students. She has truly enjoyed visiting the schools. Last week, Ms. Stein and Ms. Cutbill visited with Chuck Bacerra who is the the Lost Hills Sheriff Captain. They meet with him annually about our ongoing partnership.

Ms. Cutbill shared that she has visited a lot of schools as well. She has loved seeing students back in class.

Mr. Lawrence congratulated Dr. Vadehra on being named Board President for this term. He wished her luck and success. He thanked her for her work with ALS. He felt it was important, touching and great for awareness. Mr. Lawrence thanked the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce for hosting their great holiday gathering this past week. This was a reminder about all the businesses suffering during the pandemic. He urged people to shop locally to help local businesses. He also attended the Reorganization meeting at the City of Calabasas. He congratulated James Bozajian on wrapping up his sixth term as Mayor. Mr. Lawrence congratulated Mary Sue Maurer on her upcoming term. She laid out a bold term with helping the environment. He also thanked Ms. Kimmel and her team. They had a great Finance meeting with the auditor. The auditor stated that we had a clean audit. This is a testament to the team. The District's books are solid.

Ms. Menges stated how much she enjoyed the webinar on November 16 where Dr. Jennifer Silvers spoke about how to support adolescents through the pandemic. She felt it was well done and informative. Ms. Menges attended Lupin Hill with Ms. Stein. It was exciting to be back on campus visiting students in class. She loved seeing their Intervention Lab. Ms. Menges virtually attended the Westlake Village City Council Reorganization meeting. She also attended the Westlake Village Sing-A-Long with several Cabinet members which was a lot of fun. It shows how people are trying to cautiously reopen after the pandemic.

Dr. Vadehra thanked everyone for their support as we embark on this new journey. She shared her excitement for this coming year.

Dr. Stepenosky shared we had our eighth vaccine clinic. We vaccinated 685 students. We also had flu shots available. This clinic was in partnership with Albertson's Sav-On Pharmacy. Dr. Stepenosky thanked the team: Jessie Sweeney, Melissa Foster, Hallie Chambers and Karen Kimmel for their hard work. He also thanked the volunteers that helped with the clinic held at A.E. Wright. LVUSD has had 47.5% of students vaccinated from 5-11 years old. We are seventh in the county out of 80 school districts. For our 12-18 year olds, we are at 93.1% for first vaccination. That places us sixth in the county. Our students who received two doses are at 87%. On December 2, 2021, we had Assemblymember Jesse

Gabriel attend Calabasas High School, where he met with Ms. Willow Gaven and two of her colleagues. Dr. Stepenosky, along with Ms. Cutbill and Ms. Exner attended as well. It was a great conversation. Dr. Stepenosky shared that we have received the \$700k funds from Proposition 56: The California Healthcare Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act. We will collaborate with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on how to spend those funds. The Foundation has a Magic Show event this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. to help raise funds for the District. For more information, go to [www.thefoundationlvs.org](http://www.thefoundationlvs.org).

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

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

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

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Cutbill, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda A, Items 1-19. 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 Warrants as listed on the attached document.
2. Approved Disposal of Surplus Property as listed on the attached document.
3. Approved Purchase Orders as listed on the attached document.
4. Approved Acceptance of Notice of Completion - Fence Factory - Chaparral as listed on the attached documents.
5. Approved Acceptance of Notice of Completion - Fence Factory - LCMS as listed on the attached documents.
6. Approved Acceptance of Notice of Completion - Fence Factory - AHS as listed on the attached documents.
7. Approved Acceptance of Notice of Completion - MidState Sheetmetal Inc. - Willow as listed on the attached documents.
8. Approved New Job Title and Job Description: Academic Intervention Specialist as listed on the attached documents.
9. Approved 2022-2023 Board Meeting Dates as listed on the attached document.
10. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-05 AEW Catalina as listed on the attached document.
11. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-06 AEW AstroCamp as listed on the attached document.
12. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-07 AHS Spirit as listed on the attached document.
13. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-08 AHS Girls WP as listed on the attached document.
14. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-09 CHS MUN UCSB as listed on the attached document.
15. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-10 CHS ASB as listed on the attached document.
16. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-11 ACS Catalina as listed on the attached document.
17. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-12 AHS Sports Medicine as listed on the attached document.
18. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-13 ACS Yosemite as listed on the attached document.
19. Approved Overnight Field Trip Request 21-22-14 CHS MUN DC 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 1-2. 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. Approved Discipline Settlement Agreement in Disciplinary Case No. 21-22.10 as listed on the attached document.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. First Interim Budget Report was presented. Ms. Kimmel thanked Ms. Kristine Torres for working so hard to prepare this report. Unfortunately, she is sick this evening so she will be unable to present the report. Ms. Kimmel summarized how this report shows the revenues increased by \$11m and was offset by expenditures of \$7.6m. This leaves a \$1.4m change to result in deficit spending of \$7.3m. The pension reform from PERS/STRS started at a \$5.3m expense. Currently, we have increased to \$14m with a \$3.5m increase in the next three years. Ms. Stein clarified that this is not because we added more employees, but rather because the state has shifted this liability to school districts. Looking at enrollment, we have a 7.5% decrease from last year. Due to declining enrollment, we will have a \$7.5m hit next year. Looking at the budget projections, our funding per student amount will decrease next year by \$6m. Next year will be a big loss for the District. We will need to offset the budget next year by \$1m; the year after that by \$8m and the year after that by \$7m. We have some great new programs that we put into place which will help. We are working hard on marketing to make sure our residents are attending our schools. We will have to look at all of the programs to see

where we need to make adjustments. Looking at the Cost of Living, next year will almost double which will help our numbers.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved First Interim Budget Report. Board Motion Carried 4:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

Board member Ms. Cutbill was not present for the vote.

2. District Audit Report was presented. Ms. Kimmel shared that our new audit company Eide Bailey created their audit report. This was the first year working with them. There were a lot of new procedures to work through. Ms. Cutbill and Mr. Lawrence met with the auditors to understand the report. Eide Bailey shared from the opinion header of the report that in their opinion, the financial statements referred to present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Las Virgenes Unified School District, as of June 30, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Cutbill, the Board of Education approved District Audit Report.

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. Resolution 6-21 - Annual and Five-Year Developer Fee Report was presented. The report this year indicates that we brought in about half as much as we have in the past. Normally, we bring in around \$700k.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Resolution - Annual and Five-Year Developer Fee Report.

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

4. Acceptance of Grant: Proposition 56 was pulled from the agenda. There was no action taken on this item. This item will reappear on an agenda in the coming year.

5. Educator Effectiveness Block Grant was presented. Dr. Gleason shared that LVUSD has received \$2.2m in one-time funding to provide professional learning for teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, and classified staff in order to promote educator equity, quality, and effectiveness. This grant covers the next five years. The grant priorities are as follows: academic achievement with a focus on literacy and math, supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion in all schools, social-emotional learning, supporting staff growth pathways in areas where workforce shortages exist, early childhood education/preparation for Universal Transitional Kindergarten, and suicide prevention and mental health support.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Educator Effectiveness Block Grant.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

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

NAYES: None

Student Preferential Vote Carried 1:0

6. Submission of Center EdX Special Education Teacher Credential Program was presented. Dr. Gleason shared that LVUSD has been talking about adding a fourth credential program to Center EdX for awhile now. The program would bring in \$750k to the general fund. It is a two year program with evening classes. The program consists of 16 courses total. Faculty would include current teachers and administrators. All candidates would have to pass the state assessment (CALTPA). Each candidate would require a Bachelor's Degree to be eligible. If approved, LVUSD would have the first program like this in the state. The first cohort would begin Fall 2022.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Submission of Center EdX Special Education Teacher Credential Program.

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. Review Board Committees was presented. President Vadehra asked the Board members to look at the different committees and give her their top three choices.

2. Review Superintendent Committee Assignments & Areas of Focus was presented. President Vadehra again asked the Board members to look at the different committees and give her their top three choices.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6.50 p.m.

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Date Approved

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President, Board of Education