



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 13, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order

In accordance with Governor Newsom's executive orders of social distancing due to the COVID-19, the Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, as a teleconference/video conference meeting where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment via the public comments email address or in person via live video. The public streaming of the special Board meeting was made available through the Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, TDC Studios YouTube Channel.

Board President	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Vice President	Ms. Jackie Moran
Board Member	Ms. Velma Lomax
Board Member	Mr. Matt Almaraz
Board Member	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Superintendent	Dr. Roger Rice
Asst. Supt. /Certificated HR	Dr. Jeff Davis
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services	Ms. Rebecca Chandler
General Counsel	Mr. Anthony Ramos

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Matt Almaraz, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None.

Motion to go to Closed Session

It was moved by Mr. Matt Almaraz, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:32 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

At 7:00 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called the Regular Meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

REGULAR SESSION - Ron Halt Classroom - 7:00 p.m.

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to the appointment of Dr. Rene Rickard as the new Chief Innovation Officer.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Superintendent's Report

11.a Good News

Student Board Members Violet Delgado from Buena, Frances Kayser from Ventura and Christine Davis from Adult Ed., gave a brief update on the exciting things happening at their sites.

Dr. Rice thanked the Ventura Chamber of Commerce for continuing to honor our teachers with the Teacher of the Month Award. Dr. Rice shared that the first award of the year will be given on Thursday, October 22, and will take place at Buena High School.

Correspondence

None.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a Public Comment via e-mail regarding reopening of schools, Distance Learning, small cohorts for SPED, Canvas, and PPE for in-person instruction:

Peggy Maryanski	Olivia Aguilera	Beth Martinez
Tobie Mitchell	Lisa Bondy	Bonnie Galindo
Sheila Murphy	Kristen Hammer	Melissa Ruiz
Nani Oesterle	Veronica Randall	Erin Slack
Lynnette Wright	Marisa Stuteville	Kelsy Daniels
Anna Mikhailovsky	Jennifer Blanchette	Dorothy DeGuzman
Kathy Fierro	Leah Kory	Bob Smiley
Shannon Reveles	Erin Hakim	Lorell Guzman
Ben Pecht	G. Martinez	Heather McLeod-Rice
Elizabeth Gschwind	Donna Madden	Shawn Harris
Tadashi Takara	Angie Rodriguez	Joanne Johnson
Claudia Benton	Michelle Glenn	Marisa Murphy
Sara Baumgardner	Stephanie Riegert	Wendi Tidwell
Jaimie Hoffmam	Loren Haar	Kristy Lim
Nathan Slack	Andrew Skeath	Maria Flore
Jack Gorell	Minako Watabe	Jane Li

The following individuals gave a Public Comment in person via live video regarding reopening of schools, Distance Learning, and student achievement gaps.

Bob Smiley	Lauren Talrey	Annette Walters
Pam Lehtonen	Amy Callahan	Rebecca Woertink
Roger Woertink		

CONFERENCE - SUPERINTENDENT

14.a Reopening of Schools Update (Action Requested)

Superintendent, Dr. Roger Rice, reviewed the Reopening of Schools Presentation that he shared during the Special Board Meeting on October 9, 2020. Dr. Rice reviewed major considerations for reopening including the health and safety of staff and students, logistics, parent and staff survey results, classroom setup, cleaning, personal protective equipment, and small cohorts.

Dr. Rice shared that he would like to move forward with elementary schools reopening in a revised Hybrid Model, on November 30, 2020, after the first trimester grades are completed. In the revised Hybrid Model, students would be split into two groups, with each group attending in-person instruction two partial days per week and then continue with Distance Learning for the other three days per week; all students would receive daily live instruction.

Dr. Rice shared that at this time, he is recommending that secondary schools remain on Distance Learning for Semester 1, while allowing small groups of students to return to campus, using an incremental approach to returning students to in-person learning.

It was moved by Mr. Matt Almaraz, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the reopening of Elementary schools to a revised Hybrid Model, on November 30, 2020, pending all safety recommendations have been followed.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

15.a Arts Update for Grades TK-12

Dr. Greg Bayless, Director of Curriculum and Instruction (6-12), gave an update on the "Arts Programs" for grades Tk-12. Dr. Bayless shared that VUSD has a wide variety of art programs that allow our students to learn and engage in creative expression. The following programs were highlighted: Drama/Theater, Stagecraft, Music Groups, Choir, Visual Arts, Dance Groups, Filmmaking, Digital Photography and Media, and Clothing and Fashion. Several VUSD teachers gave a quick update on their programs including Ms. Heidi House, Ms. Nancy Kellogg, Ms. Christa Bandringa, and Mr. Paul Browne. Weekly music and art enrichment lessons can be found in Canvas at bit.ly/artsvusd.

CONFERENCE - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

16.a Report Regarding Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures Quarterly Report Pursuant to AR 1312.4 for Quarter Ending September 30, 2020.

Dr. Jeff Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, shared that there were no Williams Uniform Complaints filed for any school in the District for the period ending September 30, 2020.

ACTION ITEMS

17.a Ratification of Contract Approval of Assistant Superintendent of Business Services the ratification of employment contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, beginning October 1, 2020.

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the ratification of employment contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Ms. Jackie Moran, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent items #18 to 22 with the following amendment to item #22.a: Special Board Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2020: the header states October 9, 2020 and should say September 9, 2020.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONSENT - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

18.a Consideration for Disposal of Obsolete, Surplus or Unusable Books - Middle and High School Science Curriculum

- 18.b Consideration for Disposal of Obsolete, Surplus or Unusable Books - Pacific High School
- 18.c Consideration for Disposal of Obsolete, Surplus or Unusable Books - Montalvo Elementary School

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

- 19.a Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2020-21 School Year
- 19.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations & Retirements for Certificated Personnel for the 2020-21 School Year
- 19.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Substitute Teachers for the 2020-21 School Year
- 19.d Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2020-21 School Year
- 19.e Ratification of Administration's Approval of Assignments Through Various Education Codes
- 19.f Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2020-21 School Year

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

- 20.a Classified Position Changes

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

- 21.a Ratification of Final Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims Case No. AM202009
- 21.b Ratification of Final Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims Case No.BL202009
- 21.c Ratification of Final Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims Case No.SS202009
- 21.d Appointment of Representative to the Ventura County Schools Self-Funding Authority (VCSSFA) Board of Directors
- 21.e Designation of Gold Coast Joint Benefits Trust Representatives 2020-21
- 21.f Reject All Bids for C9--21, Ventura High School Cabling
- 21.g Gifts to School District
- 21.h Checks for September 2020
- 21.i Ratification of Purchase Orders (September 9, 2020 to September 29, 2020)

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

- 22.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

- Trustee Dannenberg shared how much he enjoyed the last four Back-to-School Night's that he attended at Buena, Ventura, El Camino, and Foothill. He also shared that it has been a pleasure to be an AVID mentor at FTHS and that they had their first meeting last week.

- Trustee Almaraz shared that he also attended all the Back-to-School nights and thoroughly enjoyed how unique each one was.
- Trustee Lomax shared that she loved the Back-to-School Nights as well. She also reported that in the CTE world, Robotics small groups are going well. Cabrillo students are excited to be back on campus and will be competing soon. Several of the schools (Foothill and Ventura) are going to do FTC (smaller robots) this year so that they can keep their students engaged during the on-line learning. Lastly, Foothill, Ventura, and a Community Team, are going to participate in the FRC (First Robotics Competition) and will be doing remote challenges this year.
- Trustee Moran shared that she is thrilled to be engaging with our students through the AVID mentor program. She is also excited that the Adoptions Committee is starting back again.
- Trustee Rodriguez shared that she attended the second PAC meeting of the year where the main topics discussed were the reopening of schools and challenges that the district is facing. She also attended the first Ethnic and Social Justice Steering Committees of the year.

COMING EVENTS

- African American Parent Committee Meeting on October 21, 2020
- Teacher of the Month Award at Buena on October 22, 2020
- Special Ed District Advisory Committee Meeting on October 23, 2020
- Parent Advisory Committee Meeting on November 3, 2020
- Special Board Meeting to appoint the new Personnel Commissioner on November 4, 2020
- Ethnic & Social Justice Committee Meeting on November 4, 2020

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

None.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS - (No official action will be taken)

None.

CLOSED SESSION

None.


ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Matt Almaraz, seconded by Ms. Jackie Moran and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 p.m. to the next Special Board Meeting to be held at 1:00 p.m. on November 4, 2020.


Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Jackie Moran, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

APPROVED



President



Secretary