

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

May 22, 2017

The Special Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Dan Jeffries on May 22, 2017, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Dan Jeffries, Brent Kuszyk and Ellen Multari, Superintendent Wendy Sinnette, Chief Business and Operations Officer Mark Evans and Director of Technology Jamie Lewsadder. There were 54 people in the audience. Mr. Jeffries asked Palm Crest Elementary student Thomas Sorenson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kaitzer Puglia arrived at 8:20 p.m.

WORKSHOP: Governing Board Study Session – Late Start

Mr. Jeffries opened the workshop with background on late start. Late start has been researched and discussed by the district for several years. At the Governing Board meeting on May 9, 2017 an agenda item was presented and discussed regarding support of Senate Bill 328. SB 328 is proposed state legislation that would mandate a start time of no earlier than 8:30 a.m. for high schools throughout the state. Mr. Jeffries provided research regarding the Senate Bill analysis which states the benefits of a late start for high school students. This legislative vote on the Senate Bill is pending while research is being done regarding costs to districts if it was mandated.

Ms. Sinnette provided additional background directly related to the past three years in which the district has been grappling with this issue. She reported on responses to the district's recent Challenge Success Late Start survey. The purpose of the workshop is to receive community input and review what outcomes work best for our students.

Ms. Sinnette provided an outline of the proposed LCUSD 7-12 late start Bell Schedule.

The following audience members addressed the Governing Board:

- Rune Sodonis, concern with late start being a senate bill for all districts;
- Sugi Sorenson, concern with late start being a senate bill for all districts;
- Craig Miller, concern with late start and the impact to athletics;
- David Haxton, in support of late start;
- Roberta Cowdin, regarding Center for Disease Control analysis and longitudinal data on late start;
- Bob Louk, concerned with implementing late start now and his recommendation to wait;
- Mike Kassarian, LCHS teacher concerned with the impact athletic schedule would have on class time;
- Naomi Stephen, LCHS junior in support of late start;
- Alex Zhao, LCHS senior suggesting adding additional late start days before going to a full late start;
- Belinda Randolph, LCHS parent expressed her concern about rushing the late start schedule for 2017-18;
- Ryan Chen, LCHS Junior and member of Challenge Success team in support of late start;
- Serena Tu, LCUSD parent and pediatrician in support of late start;
- Tracey Calhoun, LCHS teacher in support of late start;
- Bill Stoner, regarding impacts to athletics and concerns with rushing the late start schedule for 2017-18;
- Doreen Aitelli, LCHS parent and member of Challenge Success Team in support of late start;
- Jennifer Munday, LCHS teacher in support of late start;

Emin Baghdassarians, LCHS Senior in support of late start and recommending increasing a few days at a time;
 Jarrett Gold, 7/8 Principal and member of Challenge Success Team in support of late start;
 Belinda Doug, LCUSD parent in support of late start and zero period options with late start;
 Shelby Loder-Grey, LCUSD parent and member of Challenge Success 7/8 team in support of late start;
 Xia Oiu, LCUSD parent in support of late start;
 Bob Louk, offering research clarification on late start;
 Pam Raymer-Lea, LCUSD parent in support of full late start;
 Mandy Redfern, LCUSD teacher and parent in support of late start for 2017-18;
 Emma Sheehy, LCHS senior and ASB President in support of late start for 2017-18;
 Adin Ryssdal, LCHS sophomore in support of late start;
 John Moore, LCHS student in support of full late start;
 Abigail Au, LCHS senior in support of late start;
 Tom Knudson, LCHS parent asking that the Governing Board listen to students.

Ms. Sinnette thanked the audience for the dialogue. She stated that she is concerned with student health. She wants our students to be safe and happy, and student health and wellness is a significant priority for her.

Mrs. Wenn reported on the positive impact the current Tuesday late start has on her family.

Mr. Evans stated that the input received this evening is very valuable.

Dr. Davis thanked the students for their articulate input.

Ms. Lewsadder stated that this is about the students and what is best for them and stressed the importance of listening to students on issues like stress and drug use.

Mr. Sagal stated that he is in support of late start but is concerned with Senator Bill 328.

Ms. Multari thanked those who attended the meeting, stating that she appreciated their input. She reported on the background of this decision and how this was developed as a Superintendent's goal. She stated that there is compelling evidence that this is best for kids.

A special meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 30 at 5:30 p.m. to present an agenda item for approval of a late start at the high school.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 9:23 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Superintendent Wendy Sinnette, Assistant Superintendent Anais Wenn, Chief Business & Operations Officer Mark Evans, Assistant Superintendent Jeff Davis and Chief technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder. Closed Session adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Jeffries stated there was nothing to report out of Closed Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved and seconded (Multari/Sagal) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

a. Personnel Report, P26-16-17.

The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: ***Certificated:*** New Hires: Andrew Leavins, Rebeca McLarty, Vanessa Schwartz, Mary Yu. Leave of Absence: Lisa Marie Balane, Brittany Bridgman, Katy Roberts. Resignation: Katherine Patito, Tom Traeger. Retirement: Mike Gilliland, Sharon Sherman. Extra Duty Stipends: Gavin Williams, Brandon Carroll. ***Classified:*** New Hires: Jacquelyn Rabe, Bethany Smedley, Derek Williams. Modification/Transfer: Eliseo Williams. Resignation: Jonathan Connelly-Rodriguez, Nash Hutter, Charlene Nguyen. Retirement: Billy Crye, Vicky Neumann. Termination: Andrea Marquez, Kathleen Tafoya.

b. Spec Acts: LCHS CIF State Track Meet, R136-16-17. The Governing Board approved the Special Activity request to attend the CIF State Track Meet in Clovis, California June 2-3, 2017.

c. Gifts to District, R139-16-17. The Governing Board approved the Gifts to District as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.

Wendy K. Sinnette, Superintendent

MINUTES APPROVED

Brent Kuszyk, Clerk

Date