

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

September 26, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Dan Jeffries on September 26, 2017, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Governing Board Members Dan Jeffries, Kaitzer Puglia, Brent Kuszyk, Ellen Multari and David Sagal.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:00 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, Assistant Superintendent Mark Evans, and Chief Technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder. Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Dan Jeffries, President  
Mrs. Kaitzer Puglia, Vice President  
Mr. Brent Kuszyk, Clerk  
Mrs. Ellen Multari, Member  
Mr. David Sagal, Member

**OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

None.

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

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

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were five Governing Board Members, Ms. Sinnette, Mrs. Wenn, Mr. Evans, Ms. Lewsadder and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 45 people in the audience. Mr. Jeffries asked Paradise Canyon Elementary's Girl Scout Troop 8701 to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded (Sagal/Multari) to approve the minutes of August 25, 2017, September 5, 2017 and September 18, 2017. The motion to approve the minutes of August 25, 2017, September 5, 2017 and September 18, 2017 was adopted unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**1. Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Sinnette provided a brief staffing update.

Ms. Sinnette reported on the retirement of Paradise Canyon Elementary's Office Manager, Debbie Pierce. She expressed her appreciation for Debbie and the difficulty the district will experience in filling her position due to her longtime dedication and expertise in her position.

Ms. Sinnette stated that Ms. Pierce performs her job with professionalism, grace, talent and love and she will be greatly missed.

**2. President's Report**

Mr. Jeffries expressed his heartfelt appreciation for Debbie Pierce who has served the district for 35 years and has spent 32 of those at Paradise Canyon. As a PCY parent, he stated that he has witnessed Ms. Pierce in action and that she is the heart and soul of Paradise Canyon Elementary.

Mr. Jeffries and Ms. Sinnette presented a plaque to Debbie Pierce in appreciation for her dedication and service to the district and its parents, students and staff. Paradise Canyon Elementary Girl Scout Troop 8701 assisted Mr. Jeffries and Ms. Sinnette in thanking Ms. Pierce. Several staff members shared their heartfelt comments regarding Debbie's dedication and expertise while serving as Office Manager at Paradise Canyon Elementary.

**3. Assistant Superintendent of Business & Administrative Services' Report**

Mr. Evans reported on the upcoming Parcel Tax Oversight Committee meeting and the new members being presented for approval this evening.

Mr. Evans reported that one area of scope in the Facilities Master Plan is safety, security and modernization. Due to the recent earthquake in Mexico City, Mr. Evans has been questioned about the seismic safety of the district's buildings. He reported that each time modernization occurs on district buildings structural safety is always evaluated. One of the first steps, once the bond is passed, is to perform an engineering safety analysis districtwide.

**4. Student Representative**

Student Representative Averil Suk reported on recent and upcoming school events.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

None.

**OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board:

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- a. CSEA Negotiations Proposal to LCUSD, R34-17-18  
The hearing was opened at 7:27 p.m. There being no public comment the hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.
- b. LCUSD Negotiations Proposal to CSEA, R35-17-18  
The hearing was opened at 7:28 p.m. There being no public comment the hearing was closed at 7:29 p.m.

**PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS**

**1. First Reading**

- a. **CSEA Negotiations Proposal to LCUSD, R34-17-18.** Mr. Evans presented the CSEA Negotiations Proposal to LCUSD to the Governing Board for review. The California School Employees Association and its La Canada Chapter 122 (CSEA) submitted a proposal for changes, modifications, and improvement for contract negotiations for 2018-2021 to Article XXIII Compensation, Article XXIV Health and Welfare, Article V Association Rights and Article XXI Grievance Procedures.
- b. **LCUSD Negotiations Proposal to CSEA, R35-17-18.** Mr. Evans presented the LCUSD Negotiations Proposal to CSEA to the Governing Board for review. The La Canada Unified School District submitted a proposal for negotiations for 2017-18 on

Article XVII Leaves, Article XXIII Compensation, Article XXIV Health and Welfare and all related appendices, including School Calendars (2020-2021).

- c. **Discussion on Human Resources Consulting Agreement, R47-17-18.** Ms. Sinnette reported on the current contract with personnel consultant Cathy McMullen which was approved by the Governing Board in July 2017, and the expertise that Ms. McMullen provides the district in the area of personnel consulting. Ms. Sinnette reported on an email that was sent to staff this week regarding the distribution of personnel duties, ensuring staff that the administrative team is available for support on any human resources issues as needed. She reported on the importance of having a plan in place to gear up for early hiring for the 2018-19 school year and clarified that a plan is in place for restructuring the district's administrative staff for the 2018-19 school year.
  - d. **Presentation on Superintendent's 2017-2018 Goals, R33-17-18.** Ms. Sinnette presented her goals for 2017-2018. The Superintendent's goals are as follows: Districtwide Implementation of Challenge Success; LCUSD Administrative Review/Reorganization; Bond Measure Election/Facilities Master Plan; On-going Best Practices in Math Instruction and Delivery; and alignment of Districtwide and Leadership Team Goals. She briefly reported on each goal. The Governing Board asked clarifying questions of the Superintendent. Ms. Sinnette reported on homework, Challenge Success, the current and upcoming surveys on late start, and the additional outreach that will take place to ensure an unbiased survey on the late start experience to assist with how to move forward in the upcoming school years. It was moved and seconded (Multari/Sagal) to approve the Superintendent's 2017-18 goals as presented. The motion to approve the Superintendent's 2017-18 goals as presented was approved unanimously.
  - e. **Discussion Revisiting the District's Resolution (12/17/13) Related to Concerns Over the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Devil's Gate Reservoir Sediment Removal and Maintenance Project, R44-17-18.** Ms. Sinnette asked the Governing Board to revisit the concerns over the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Devil's Gate Reservoir Sediment Removal and Maintenance Project. Mr. Jeffries expressed the Governing Board's concerns with the project and stated that he would like something in place to clarify how to report when procedures are not being followed during the sediment removal project. Ms. Multari asked staff to bring a resolution back to the Governing Board to be sent to the County Board of Supervisors upon adoption. It was agreed to bring a new resolution to the Governing Board at the next regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting.
2. **Consent Agenda**  
It was moved and seconded (Multari/Kuszyk) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.
- a. **Personnel Report, P7-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: *Certificated*: New Hires: Samantha Bowdren, Su Min Ha, Kaitlyn Rivera, Valerie Simonian, Jonathan Smith. *Classified*: New Hires: Imelda Avila-Ramirez, Danielle Canas, Arpa Hachadourian, Casey Hannum, Marietta Penkoff, Jessica Thai, Hannah Zeineddine. Modification: Edward Evans, Lani Turner. Resignation: Ashlin Anand. Termination: Andrea McCraw. Extra Duty Stipend: Jimmy Myers, Leticia Alcuran, Daniel De Luna Martinez, Brendan Yee, Sean Knuth, Christopher Truitt, Ben Lewis, Greg Power, Al Cleveland.
  - b. **Spec Acts: LCE Time Capsule/Ocean Institute, R32-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the LCE Special Activity request to attend Time Capsule/Ocean Institute November 27-29, 2017 and November 30-December 2, 2017.
  - c. **Spec Acts: LCE Valley Forge, R38-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the LCE Special Activity request to attend Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania February 5-9, 2018.

- d. **Spec Acts: PCY Valley Forge, R40-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the PCY Special Activity request to attend Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania March 19-23, 2018.
- e. **Spec Acts: PCY Pali Mountain, R41-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the PCY Special Activity request to attend the Pali Mountain Science Trip in Running Springs, California February 26, 2018 through March 2, 2018.
- f. **Spec Acts: PCY Before the Mast-Pilgrim, R46-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the PCY Special Activity request to attend the Before the Mast-Pilgrim in Dana Point, California March 12, March 13, March 14, and March 15, 2018.
- g. **Spec Acts: LCHS Orchestra Retreat, R42-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activities request to attend the Orchestra Retreat at Angles Christian Camp in Valyermo, California January 19-21, 2018.
- h. **Appointment of Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Members, R43-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the appointment of the following Parcel Tax Oversight Committee members for 2017-18 through 2019-20: James Andersen, C.S. Bair, Diane Schulz, Pat Anderson, Carl Husfeld, Paris Cohen, Sid Karsh and Sue Lieu.
- i. **Accept Low Bid for Roofing Projects, R39-17-18.** The Governing Board accepted the low bid for the La Canada High School buildings 700 and the IRC, and La Canada Elementary's buildings 700 & 800 roofing projects from FC and Sons Roofing, Inc. in the amount of \$268,655.
- j. **ACTFL Conference, R45-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the out of state travel for three world language teachers to attend the American Council on Teaching Foreign Language conference in Nashville, Tennessee November 16-19, 2017.
- k. **Gifts to District, R31-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the Gifts to District as presented.
- l. **Purchase Order List 5-17-18.** The Governing Board approved Purchase Order List 5-17-18.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Sagal reported on the success of late start in his household.

Mr. Kuszyk reported on the recent Student Leadership Committee meeting. He also reported on current meetings with the YMCA regarding potential fitness classes at the school sites.

Mr. Jeffries also reported on the success of late start in his home.

Ms. Sinnette reported on the Los Angeles Committee on School District Organization summit at the Los Angeles County Office of Education on October 6, 2017.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Governing Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.

---

Wendy K. Sinnette, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Governing Board

### MINUTES APPROVED

---

Brent Kuszyk, Clerk

---

Date