

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

May 14, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Brent Kuszyk on May 14, 2019, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Governing Board Members Brent Kuszyk, Joe Radabaugh, Ellen Multari, and Dan Jeffries.

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 four Governing Board Members, Superintendent Wendy Sinnette, Associate Superintendent Anais Wenn, Associate Superintendent Mark Evans, and Chief Technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder. Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Brent Kuszyk, President
Mr. Joe Radabaugh, Vice President
Mrs. Ellen Multari, Clerk
Mr. Dan Jeffries, Member

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Kuszyk stated that in Closed Session the Governing Board unanimously approved a Non-due process matters Settlement Agreement signed on April 19, 2019 (4:0 with Ms. Puglia absent).

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 four Governing Board Members, Ms. Sinnette, Mrs. Wenn, Mr. Evans, Ms. Lewsadder and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 75 people in the audience. Mr. Kuszyk asked Palm Crest Troop 1521 to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to approve the minutes of February 12, 2019, February 27, 2019 and March 8, 2019. The motion to approve the minutes of February 12, 2019, February 27, 2019 and March 8, 2019 was adopted unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Sinnette began her report recognizing the La Cañada High School students who created Software Sisters and who have participated in the "Girls Who Code" program. Ms. Sinnette provided background on the program and thanked La Cañada High School teacher Gayle Nicholls-Ali for sponsoring the program. Ms. Nicholls-Ali was present with several of her students to talk about the program and reported that Software Sisters received a small mini-grant for the program. The girls in attendance reported on the process to create Software

Sisters and participate in the Girls Who Code program, which they sponsored for elementary students. Ms. Sinnette presented certificates to the girls present.

Ms. Sinnette thanked Student Representative Andrew Kwon for his service for 2018-2019 and presented him with a plaque in appreciation for his services. Ms. Sinnette reported that the La Cañada High School Administration has performed interviews for the 2019-2020 Governing Board Student Representative and announced the appointment of JJ Dick as next year's Governing Board Student Representative.

Ms. Sinnette provided an enrollment update stating that with the acceptance of permit applications, next year's enrollment is projected to be approximately 4,125.

Ms. Sinnette reported that the May meeting for the Los Angeles County Office of Education vote on the potential territory transfer of "Sagebrush" was cancelled. The next meeting is June 5th but it is unclear whether the Sagebrush territory transfer will be on the agenda. The district is prepared to participate in the event if the item is on the agenda.

Ms. Sinnette thanked LCTA, CSEA and the district's negotiating team for the outstanding and collaborative efforts during this year's negotiations.

2. President's Report

Mr. Kuszyk continued to highlight elements of STEAM focusing on the Arts. Last month Mr. Kuszyk highlighted the arts in the K-6 grades and this meeting he turned the focus on grades 7-12. In grades 7-12 there currently are approximately 325 students enrolled in five choral ensembles: Men's Ensemble, Women's Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble (7/8), Concert Choir, and the Chamber Singers. In instrumental music there are 113 students enrolled in band (including color guard) and 83 students involved with orchestra for grades 7-12. For theatrical arts there are approximately 200 students involved with theater grades 7-12. Visual arts has over 280 students participating in various art classes including photography as well as art through the CTE elective wheel.

Mr. Kuszyk had the privilege to attend the most recent visual art show in the foyer of the high school auditorium. He was amazed at the varying projects that included photography, painting, fashion design and ceramics. Last year Ms. Nichols Ali, LCHS photography teacher hosted a live exhibition of photographic arts at the Armory in Pasadena, which was received with great accolades.

In the performance realm, the district had the LCHS Marching Band which recently competed strongly at the state championships and our thriving 7/8 concert band led by James Meyers also performs well.

Mr. Stone, who wears many hats at the high school, leads the concert and marching bands, directs the Jazz ensemble, as well as the Indoor Drumline and the theater orchestra.

The district is thrilled to have Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra violinist Jennifer Munday leading our high school orchestra to new heights. This group recently featuring a concert that included original compositions by our students.

In the theatrical arts, the district offers multiple levels of theater classes led by Justin Eick. The La Canada Playhouse (as it is known) features 8 plays/musicals a year – Mr. Kuszyk stated that he doesn't think you will find a high school with more opportunities for students to grow in their acting and production skills.

In the vocal arts, there are many opportunities for our students at all levels. In the middle school students may participate in the men's choir, the women's choir, or the Vocal Ensemble.

At the high school level we offer both men's and women's ensembles along with Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. New next year the district will add a Vocal Ensemble course at the high school.

The Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Men's Ensemble, and Women's Ensemble have all received superior ratings at the annual choir festival for 9 consecutive years.

The choirs recently toured France and had the honor of singing at the American Cemetery in Normandy as well as at Notre Dame Cathedral. Additionally the choir offers two pops concerts for both middle school and high school crowds each year where students audition to perform their favorite popular music songs.

One of the reasons for La Canada High School receiving the National Blue Ribbon Award a few years back was its strong offerings in the arts in addition to strong academics.

The arts continues to be one of our strong suits in La Canada and Mr. Kuszyk is proud of the many talented students and faculty who make the arts thrive at LCHS.

3. Associate Superintendent of Business & Administrative Services' Report

Mr. Evans provided a budget update reporting that the State's April revenues came in above projections. The Governor's budget is on track. The Legislature has until June 15th to present the 2019-2020 proposed budget for to the Governor.

4. Student Representative

Andrew Kwon reported on recent and upcoming events.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

It was requested that First Reading items be moved before Second Reading items and that the Science Olympiad item be moved so as to be addressed first and that item 14 g be moved to include a First Reading asterisk.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Carmen Slavov, LCHS parent regarding the need for a 50 meter pool at LCHS;
David Haxton, Community Member, regarding bus transportation at LCHS;
David Haxton, Community Member, regarding renting the LCHS pool and the Civic Center Act;
Corinne Ritter, CSEA President and Dina Loftus, CSEA Vice President, in honor of CSEA Staff Appreciation Week they jointly recognized all CSEA staff members.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. First Reading

- a. ***Support for Science Olympiad at LCHS, R174-18-19.** Ms. Wenn reported that at the April 16th Governing Board meeting a student and staff member requested that the Governing Board consider offering Science Olympiad as a course during the academic day. Science Olympiad students were present to request this course during the academic day and reported on the benefits of this class.

Mr. Jeffries reported on a recent meeting he attended with the students who requested a Science Seminar Class and was impressed by how articulate they were. Ms. Multari is in support of the course but requested that it be approved as an a-g course so that it is accepted by the College Admission Board and asked what elective it would replace.

The following audience members addressed the Board:

David Haxton, recommended a 7 period day;

Belinda Randolph, compared art course options with science course options;

LCHS Parent (Name Unavailable), requested support of the Science Seminar Class;

7/8 Parent (Name Unavailable), stated that this class would be a great way of creating student enthusiasm in the sciences.

Ms. Sinnette commented on the enthusiasm of the students and discussed the challenges of meeting the credential requirements for such a wide spread science class.

- b. **First Read: Textbook Adoption: Oceanography, R148-18-19.** This is a First Read item. Ms. Wenn reported that the Science Department has proposed to teach a new course, Oceanography, during the 2019-20 school year. The department members have been reviewing a variety of instructional materials and communicating their findings to site and district administration. Upon review and consideration, staff recommends Marine Science: Marine Biology and Oceanography, 3rd Edition, by AMSCO Publishing, 2017. This item will come back at the next regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting for adoption.
- c. ***Presentation and Discussion Item Regarding LCUSD Wellness, Safety, and Security Priorities, R177-18-19.** Ms. Sinnette reported that over the past 14 months, the Governing Board Taskforce on Wellness, Safety, and Security conducted meetings, research, and site visits that led to an initial actions and priorities list. The subcommittees explored the topics of wellness, outreach, and communication; traffic and parking; campus safety; closed campus at lunch for LCHS; and safety and security training. Each of these subcommittees determined their solution sets and those were voted on by the entire committee to establish an initial priority ranking. A matrix was created that showed the solution, subcommittee connection, and the overall taskforce ranking. The cost estimates were also included in this matrix as a tool to help the Governing Board establish the priority list, clarifying both needs and costs that are one time, recurring, and/or items that will require replacement over time. Items included staffing, capital improvements, software, policies, and training.

Ms. Lewsadder provided a PowerPoint regarding the Safety, Security, and Wellbeing Taskforce. The objective was to recap the taskforce process; review a presentation of the priorities; have board discussion regarding the priorities; and agree on final ranking of the priorities while outlining next steps.

Ms. Lewsadder reviewed each project and discussed staff recommendations.

Ms. Sinnette discussed the proposed approach to security staff for all sites. She provided a recommendation for additional security staff at the high school. She clarified that priorities are fluid and can be reviewed and changed at any time.

The Governing Board reviewed the projects and collaborated to assign High, Medium and Low priorities to each project. The high priority items will be included in the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Mr. Radabaugh suggested creating a communication package for the community. Ms. Sinnette reported that the first step will be to write the LCAP and then create the communication package. Members of the Taskforce will be invited to participate in the LCAP committee for next year.

- d. **Contract Renewal for Food Services Management Company, R178-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to approve entering into a contract renewal with

Chartwell's for Food Services Management. Mr. Evans clarified Chartwell's 3.2% cost increase to the district. He reported that meal sales are holding steady. Supplemental items are up over 8,000 items. Mr. Evans reported on the continued improvements to the Food Services program. The motion to approve entering into a contract renewal with Chartwell's for Food Services Management was approved unanimously.

2. **Second Reading**

- a. **Resolution No. 14-18-19 Delegating Authority for Accepting Bids and Awarding Contracts for Bid No. LCF 18/19-07, and Bid No. LCF 18/19-08.** It was moved and seconded (Multari/Radabaugh) to adopt Resolution No 14-18-19 Delegating Authority for Accepting Bids and Awarding Contracts for Bid No. LCF 18/19-07, and Bid No. LCF 18/19-08. There being no questions from First Read the motion to adopt Resolution No. 14-18-19 Delegating Authority for Accepting Bids and Awarding Contracts for bid No. LCF 18/19-07, and Bid No. LCF 18/19-08 was adopted unanimously.
- b. **Adoption of French Language Textbook – Bien dit! Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018, R160-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to approve the adoption of French Language Textbook – Bien dit! Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018. There being no questions from First Read, Ms. Wenn requested that the textbook be approved for adoption. The motion to approve the adoption of French Language Textbook – Bien dit! Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018 was approved unanimously.
- c. **Adoption of German Language Textbook – Mosaik by Jose Blanco, Vista Higher Learning (2018), R159-1-19.** . It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to approve the adoption of German Language Textbook – Mosaik by Jose Blanco, Vista Higher Learning (2018), R159-18-19. There being no questions from First Read Ms. Wenn requested that the proposed textbook be approved for adoption. The motion to approve the adoption of German Language Textbook- Mosaik by Jose Blanco, Vista Higher Learning (2018) was adopted unanimously.
- d. **Potential New Course at LCHS 7/8 for 2019-2020 School Year: Medical Biology, R147-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to approve the course description for the potential new course at LCHS 7/8 for 2019-2020 school year: Medical Biology. Ms. Wenn clarified that this course will include First Aid training and requested that the Governing Board approved the course description. The motion to approve the course description for Medical Biology was approved unanimously.
- e. **Potential New Course at LCHS for 2019-2020 School Year: Robotics, R145-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to approve the course description for the potential new course at LCHS for the 2019-2020 school year: Robotics. There being no questions from First Read Ms. Wenn requested approval of the course description. The motion to approve the course description Robotics was approved unanimously.
- f. **Approval of Board Policy Revisions, R144-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to approve the Board Policy revisions for BP 5125.1, BP 5022, BP 5111.1, BP 6145.3, BP 5125, BP 5145.13, BP 5111, BP 5145.6, BP 5131.2, BP 1312.3. Ms. Wenn reported that these polices are necessitated to accommodate students' immigration status. The motion to approve the Board Policy revisions for BP 5125.1, BP 5022, BP 5111.1, BP 6145.3, BP 5125, BP 5145.13, BP 5111, BP 5145.6, BP 5131.2, BP 1312.3 was adopted unanimously.

3. **Discussion Items**

- a. **Discussion Regarding the Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration (Sediment Removal and Maintenance) Project – District Actions and Updates, R176-18-19.** Ms. Sinnette provided an update on the Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration Project reporting that the project is expected to begin on Monday, May 20th. The initial project phase is anticipating approximately 20 trucks per hour. That number will increase as the project moves forward. Ms. Sinnette will be sending a communication to parents and staff to remind student drivers to exercise caution when driving around campus and to allow additional

time to access the high school campus. To reduce traffic impacts students have been asked to use the LCF shuttle and parents have been asked to carpool. Students have been reminded to exercise caution when walking off campus due to the increased traffic from the project. Project information can be accessed through the County's website at <https://pw.lacounty.gov/swe/devilsgate/>. The project's hotline # is (626) 458-257. Finally, part of the district's ongoing advocacy work will be to echo the City's request for a Community Safety Plan.

4. **Consent Agenda**

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P22-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: *Certificated*: New Hires: Kristen Angelica, Nichelle Boyd, Joann Cho, Laura Deans, Odessa Esquivel, Lori Geuvjehizian, Adrianna Glazener, Michelle Laska Annie Mergenthaler, Mary Protzko, Adriana Rivera, Laura Strametz, Megan Thomas, Mariana Valderhaug. Resignation: Jon Lyons. *Classified*: New Hires: Alison Angel, Roubina Barkhordarian, Maria Barriga, Johanna Buhler, Danielle Canas, Monica Carrillo, Ana Flores, Tiffany Gonzalez, Stephanie Guzman, Jennifer Jackson, Wil Jones, Dolly Leidelmeijer, Dina Loftus, Maria Marroquin, Darci Martinez, Kristen Mascheroni, Lindsay McGee, Danielle Nobles, Shannon Ortiz, Darling Paz, Tracy Prehn, Lizbeth Vasquez, Jessica Voelker, Annalise Waterman. Modification: Devin McCullin. Resignation: Angela Aquirre, Laura J. Johnson. Retirement: Melody Hadley, Grace Pratt.
- b. **Extra Duty Report, P23-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the Extra Duty Report as presented.
- c. **Authorization to Make Year-End Appropriations Transfers, R171-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the Authorization to Make Year-End Appropriations Transfers.
- d. **Resolution 15-18-19 Temporary Transfers from the School Pools Fund Maintained by the Los Angeles County Treasurer.** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 15-18-19 authorizing Temporary Transfers from the School Pools Fund Maintained by the Los Angeles County Treasurer.
- e. **Resolution 16-18-19: Temporary Inter-Fund Cash Borrowing (2019-20).** The Governing Board adopted Resolution 16-18-19 authorizing Temporary Inter-Fund Cash Borrowing for 2019-20.
- f. **Approval of Increase in the District's Facility Use Fee Schedule for 2019-20, R169-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the increase in the District's Facility Use Fee Schedule for 2019-20.
- g. **Contract Renewal for Food Services Management Company, R178-18-19.** This item was moved to First Read *.
- h. **Change in Governing Board Meeting Date, R170-18-19.** The Governing Board approve the change in the Governing Board meeting date from June 11, 2019 to June 18, 2019.
- i. **Spec Acts: LCHS CIF Swim and Dive Championships, R175-18-19.** The Governing Board ratified the LCHS Spec Activity request to attend the CIF Swim and Dive Championships in Fresno, California May 9-11, 2019.
- j. **Purchase Order List 1718-19.** The Governing Board approved Purchase Order List 17-18-19.

COMMUNICATIONS

Calendars were discussed.

Ms. Sinnette informed the Governing Board that the La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation has chosen two Rose Harrington Recipients for the 2018-19 school year.

The district has received a grant from the Department of Mental Health to show the film “Angst” followed by a panel discussion.

The district has received a letter from WASC unofficially announcing that the high school has received a 6-year accreditation. Mr. Jeffries suggested recognizing the high school staff involved in the WASC accreditation.

The district’s End of the Year Breakfast is scheduled for June 6th at 7:30 a.m.

Ms. Lewsadder informed the Governing Board that Jason Stone will be providing student music for the hold music on the district’s telephone system.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 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

Ellen Multari, Clerk

Date