

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

April 21, 2020

The Special Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Joe Radabaugh on April 21, 2020, via a Zoom teleconference. Present were Governing Board Members Joe Radabaugh, Ellen Multari, Dan Jeffries, Kaitzer Puglia and Brent Kuszyk.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. via a Zoom teleconference. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Superintendent Wendy Sinnette, Associate Superintendent Anais Wenn, Associate Superintendent Mark Evans, and Chief Technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder. Closed Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

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

SPECIAL MEETING

The Special Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 6:51 p.m. via a Zoom teleconference. Present were five Governing Board Members, Ms. Sinnette, Mrs. Wenn, Mr. Evans, Ms. Lewsadder and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. Mr. Radabaugh led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. **First Reading**
 - a. **Discussion Item – Update on LCUSD Response to COVID-19 and Distance Learning Response Review Updates for April 1 – 21, 2020, R129-19-20.** Ms. Sinnette provided a background on actions taken by the Governing Board and the Superintendent in regards to the COVID-19. Ms. Sinnette has been working closely with the Principals and the Technology Department to create and implement the required/graded learning guidelines. Ms. Sinnette reported that she has been working with the Governing Board President and Principal Jim Cartnal on alternative celebrations for the Senior class of 2020 activity options. She is communicating frequently with the LCUSD community, teachers, and staff including LCTA and CSEA on updates regarding distance learning and COVID-19. In addition, Ms. Sinnette is communicating and planning regularly with Federal, State and Local elected officials, agencies and departments and sharing information with Superintendents of local districts. Ms. Wenn provided an update on activities that have taken place in

Educational Services since the last update. She reported on the transition to graded mandatory assignments that started April 14, 2020. The textbook ordering process has begun for the 2020-21 school year. Ms. Wenn has communicated district needs to its professional development providers in preparation for next school year. Ms. Wenn has been working closely with 7-12 administration in the planning of next school year's master schedule. Mr. Evans provided an update on Human Resources including hiring, professional development, and negotiations. He reported that Business Services continues to perform essential operations for the district including payroll, receivables and payables, benefits management, and funding and budget. Food Services is providing Grab and Go lunches daily at the high school from 11 am to Noon. The district is currently providing approximately 150 lunches per day. Mr. Evans reported on the cleaning and maintenance activities throughout the district. Mr. Evans stated that without students on campus, two projects are taking place at Paradise Canyon Elementary: the fireline installation and, landscaping upgrades and repairs. Ms. Lewsadder provided an update from the Technology Department. The department is publishing a weekly newsletter for teachers that curates the most common questions and solutions. They are providing trainings on assessments, recording lessons, and video lesson security and etiquette. Additional video topics are scheduled. Ms. Lewsadder reported that all families and students can get tech support through the district website. Tech support for teachers and staff is available remotely.

The following members of the public commented on the response to the COVID-19 and distance learning update:

Afsaneh Barzi,
Annie Kim,
Tina Daley,
Stacy Boland,
Anonymous.

- b. ***Recommendation to Extend District-wide School Facility Closures Through the End of the School Year 2019-2020, R130-19-20.** Ms. Sinnette reported that the district has been closed since March 13, 2020. The current Governing Board decision is that school facilities will remain closed until May 5th. The recommendation of the Los Angeles County Office of Education is to extend the closure through the end of the school year. With much consternation and deep consideration, Ms. Sinnette recommended the extension of the facility closure for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. It was moved and seconded (Multari/Puglia) to consider the recommendation to extend the school facility closure through June 3, 2020.

Public comments regarding the closure extension were received from the following individuals:

Afsaneh Barzi
Michelle Jones
Belinda Randolph

After a lengthy discussion, the Governing Board agreed that for the safety of its students it is important to extend the closure through the 2019-2020 school year. The motion to extend the school facility closure to the end of the 2019-2020 school year was approved unanimously.

- c. **Presentation on Planning for Senior Class of 2020 End of Year Events and Celebration Given School Site Facility Closures Due to COVID-19, R131-19-20.** Ms. Sinnette stated that requirements for social distancing will be in place for the foreseeable future, and, as such, large gatherings are prohibited. These realities

necessitate administrative oversight to ensure that alternative plans are developed for end of the year events and celebrations honoring the achievements of our LCHS Senior Class of 2020. Ms. Sinnette gave a shout out to LCHS Principal Jim Cartnal and Assistant Principals Kristina Kalb and Jason Ito for their collaboration and creativity to provide a meaningful experience for the Senior Class of 2020. Jim Cartnal joined the meeting to report on senior activities planned to date. He stated that the LCUSD and LCHS administration will continue to celebrate and honor our Seniors. He welcomed any ideas that will help celebrate our seniors during this challenging time. Senior congratulatory yard signs have been ordered. Seniors were asked to pick up signs this week and to send in pictures of themselves with the signs to create a digital collage. The Spartan stadium will be lighted tomorrow at 20:20 in recognition of the 2020 Seniors. In partnership with the City of La Cañada Flintridge, Spartan banners will be installed along Foothill Boulevard. A banner has been created for each senior with their senior photo and Spartan colors. Seniors will be asked to come to campus the second week of May to pick up their cap and gowns and a grab and go lunch. With the support of the City, a Senior Salute car parade will take place on the scheduled graduation day. The parade will consist of 50 cars at a time turning right on Oak Gove into the high school parking lot. Cars will be decorated with students' names and their accomplishments. This will be a community wide celebration. LCHS site administration, faculty and district administration will offer traditional graduation for the seniors when social distancing requirements are removed. Mr. Cartnal thanked everyone for their support and asked for any suggestions and ideas on how to support and celebrate LCHS Seniors.

The following individual commented on senior end of year events and celebrations:

Jenny Raulli

Ms. Sinnette briefly discussed elementary and 7/8 promotion ideas.

2. 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, P23-17-18.** The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: ***Certificated:*** New Hires: Andre Brown, Adrianna Glazener, Parminder "Tina" Singh. Modification/Transfer: Carrie Saks. Leave of Absence: Ashley Gish. Retirement: Pam Daniger.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 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

Kaitzer Puglia, Clerk
