

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

January 28, 2021

Due to technical difficulties there was a delay in the start of the meeting, the Special Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 1:45 p.m. by President Kaitzer Puglia on January 28, 2021, via Zoom. Present were Governing Board Members Kaitzer Puglia, Dan Jeffries, Joe Radabaugh, Caroline Anderson and Josh Epstein, Superintendent Wendy Sinnette, Associate Superintendent Anais Wenn, Associate Superintendent Mark Evans, Chief Technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. Ms. Puglia asked Joe Radabaugh to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON AGENDIZED ITEMS

Public Comments will be addressed during the agenda item.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. First Reading

- a. ***Approval of the LCUSD COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP) AND THE Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP), R93-20-21.** Ms. Sinnette reported that on January 14, 2021, the Governor announced his Safe Schools for All proposal. The proposal establishes a grant program to incentivize districts to reopen schools for in-person instruction, inclusive of hybrid models. The proposal requires an approved COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP) and a Cal/OSHA COVID19 Prevention Program (CPP). Both of these plans have been developed by staff over the last two weeks. Additionally, districts that have already reopened are required to post on their website their CSPs by February 1, 2021. Ms. Sinnette reported on the Governor's requirements to reopen which includes: negotiations with labor unions, offering in-person instruction to families TK-2 by February 16, and up to grade 6 by March 15, testing all students and staff for COVID-19, and student access to technology. LCUSD will meet all requirements of the proposal. Pending approval of the state legislature, the Safe Schools for All Grant Program could provide LCUSD with \$450 per average daily attendance. Ms. Sinnette discussed how fluid the Governor's plan is. There has been substantial pushback due to the extensive requirements of the plan. The Governing Board mutually agreed that their desire is to bring students back on campus as soon as it is safe to do so. Mandatory student and staff testing was discussed. Ms. Sinnette reported on the optional testing that has been available to staff. The implementation date of the mandatory testing has yet to be announced. Ms. Sinnette reported on the limited positive COVID-19 cases that the district has seen to date. She clarified that there have been no positive cases among district students.

The following members of the public addressed the Governing Board on this agenda item:

Anonymous, Community Member; and
Concerned Parent.

It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Radabaugh) to approve the COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP) and the OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) and to direct staff to post and file the plans. The motion to approve the COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP) and the OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP) and to direct staff to post and file the plans was approved unanimously.

- b. ***Recommendation to Reopen 3rd grade for In-Person Instruction for Students on the Hybrid Schedule on February 16, 2021, R94-20-21.** Ms. Sinnette reported that on November 17, 2020 LCUSD's TK-2 students on the Hybrid Schedule returned to campus for in-person instruction. LCUSD has successfully implemented the health and safety protocols required by the California Department of Public Health and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The next step in the District's phased reopening for in-person instruction is to reopen third grade students on the hybrid schedule. Third grade reopening is through the County's high needs program. The return of students in 4-6 grade is not permitted until the adjusted case rate thresholds are met. Those metrics will continue to be monitored. Ms. Sinnette reported that the athletic conditioning and skill-building programs will reopen on February 1st. Ms. Sinnette reported on the partnership with Verdugo Hills Hospital to vaccinate district employees beginning February 6th. Vaccines will be prioritized to staff that are teaching in person. Safety protocols were clarified. Prior to reopening Ms. Sinnette reminded parents and staff about the requirement to quarantine for 14 days if they leave Southern California during President's weekend.

The following members of the public addressed the Board on this agenda item:

Skye Petschauer, LCUSD Parent;
 Priya Harder, LCUSD Parent;
 Will Close, LCUSD Parent;
 Catherine Close, LCUSD Parent;
 Sugi Sorensen, LCUSD Parent;
 Debra Barsom, LCUSD Parent; and
 Greg Molinelli, LCUSD Parent.

Due to the safety protocols that have been established by the district and the slow decline in COVID cases, it was moved and seconded (Radabaugh/Anderson) to approve reopening for third grade students on the hybrid schedule for in-person instruction. The motion to approve reopening for third grade students on the hybrid schedule for in-person instruction was approved unanimously.

- c. ***Approval Issuance of 2020-21 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) and Adopt Resolution No. 13-20-21.** Mr. Evans requested the adoption of Resolution 13-20-21 approving the issuance of 2020-21 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes in an amount not to exceed \$7,000,000. Mr. Evans reported that participation in TRANS will provide monies to the District in February 2021 before State deferrals begin, which will help to eliminate cash flow deficiencies due to the deferrals. It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Epstein) to adopt Resolution 13-20-21 approving the issuance of 2020-21 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes. The motion to adopt Resolution 13-20-21 approving the issuance of 2020-21 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes was approved unanimously.

2. **Consent Agenda**

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

- a. **2019-20 School Accountability Report Cards (SARC), R91-20-21.** The Governing Board approved the revisions to the School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) as presented.
- b. **Approval of Lease Extension for California Dance Arts, R92-20-21.** The Governing Board approved the lease extension for California Dance Arts from January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California.

Wendy K. Sinnette, Superintendent
Secretary to the Governing Board

MINUTES APPROVED

Joe Radabaugh, Clerk

Date