

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

August 25, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Andrew Blumenfeld on August 25, 2015, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Governing Board Members Andrew Blumenfeld, Ellen Multari, David Sagal, Dan Jeffries and Kaitzer Puglia.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 6:00 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 Jeff Davis and Chief Business & Operations Officer Mark Evans. Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Andrew Blumenfeld, President
Mrs. Ellen Multari, Vice President
Mr. David Sagal, Clerk
Mrs. Kaitzer Puglia, Member
Mr. Dan Jeffries, Member

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Blumenfeld stated that there is 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 and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 10 people in the audience. Mr. Blumenfeld asked La Cañada High School Senior Jack Nagel to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (Multari/Sagal) to approve the minutes of July 14, 2015 and July 27, 2015. The motion to approve the minutes of July 14, 2015 and July 27, 2015 was adopted unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Sinnette reported on the school year calendar and the request by some members of the community to start the school year in late August or September. She reported on the adopted school calendars through 2018. Ms. Sinnette reported on the instructional advantages of an early start, stating that the two weeks of additional instruction before the AP test supports more comprehensive pacing guides. The current calendar start time syncs with other districts and sports activity participation. She reported that Torrance Unified is the only school district in the area that starts after Labor Day. The calendar change also assists seniors with college

applications by having transcripts available in December. After several years of adjusting the calendar the district is now on a full length 10 week summer. Ms. Sinnette reported that the 2016-2017 school year will start August 16, 2016 and the 2017-2018 school year will start August 14, 2017. Ms. Sinnette clarified some inaccurate rebuttal points. She clarified that it was stated that the survey reported a result of 52% parents in favor of the calendar change; the correct percentage of parents in favor of the calendar change was 55%. Ms. Sinnette also clarified that there is no verifiable research showing that starting in August is detrimental to student performance. There is also no research that a post-holiday subject review increases student retention. She discussed the precautions taken to ensure that students are not overheated in the event of hot August weather. Ms. Sinnette expressed her empathy and compassion for those families that do not agree with the calendar, but the current calendar decision was designed with significant consideration and intentionality.

Ms. Sinnette reported on the Governing Board Candidate filing period stating that the district will not have an election due to two candidates filing for two seats. She expressed how fortunate she is to be able to work with the district's extraordinary Governing Board and congratulated current Governing Board member Ellen Multari and incoming Governing Board member Brent Kuszyk. Both will be appointed to the Governing Board at the annual organizational meeting in December for a four year term.

2. President's Report

Mr. Blumenfeld expressed his pleasure with the candidate filing results which will seat Ellen Multari and Brent Kuszyk. He also welcomed two student interns to the Governing Board meeting. He reported briefly on SB799 which addresses the reserve cap limitations. SB799 would change the hard cap to 17%. Mr. Blumenfeld would like the district to continue with its plans to work around the reserve cap. He asked members of the community to reach out to their electives to support SB799.

3. Chief Business & Operations Officer

Mr. Evans reported on research that is being done regarding the 3% routine maintenance reserve. Additional information will come back to the Governing Board for further discussion.

Mr. Evans provided an update on the LCHS painting project clean up. Additionally, Mr. Evans reported that Chartwells, the new food service company, is underway with their services. The cafeteria staff is enjoying making the food and initial purchases are up. Food sales will continue to be monitored.

Mr. Evans reported that 5 of the stolen iPads have been recovered, the retrieval of which resulted in an arrest. Theft investigations are continuing.

4. Student Representative

ASB Advisor, Bill Lively was present to introduce the new Student Representative, Riley Owen. Mr. Lively reported on Riley Owen's accomplishments and his goal oriented approach to life. Mr. Owen thanked the Governing Board for the opportunity to be the Governing Board Student Representative. Mr. Owen reported on student activities through-out the district.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

None.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

None.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Hearing

a. Resolution 4-15-16 Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for Grades K-2.

The public hearing was opened at 7:28 p.m. There being no public comment the hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.

2. First Reading

a. Update on Teacher Evaluation Pilot 2015-2016, R9-15-16. Ms. Sinnette provided a presentation regarding the teacher evaluation pilot for 2015-2016. She reported on the support the evaluators are receiving to ensure quality evaluations. Ms. Wenn discussed the collaboration that is being done amongst teachers during collaboration time in Professional Learning Communities, which assists teachers with creating professional goals.

b. *Resolution 4-15-16 Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for Grades K-12. It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to adopt Resolution 4-15-16 Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for Grades K-12. This resolution certifies that the district has complied with the requirements of Education Code Section 60119 and California Code of regulation, Title 5, Section 9531(d). The motion to adopt Resolution 4-15-16 Statement of Assurance of Availability of Pupil Textbooks and Instructional Materials for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for Grades K-12 was adopted unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda

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

a. Personnel Report, P5-15-16. The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: *Certificated*: New Hires: Sarah Beattie, Braxton North. *Classified*: New Hires: Andre Bonyad, Patricia Fink, Ariannah Hood, Nash Hutter, Princess Jernigan, Laura Johnson, Andrea Marquez, Lizbeth Perez, Vickie Stallworth. Resignation: Robert Jimenez. Leave of Absence: Monique Dulac.

b. Amendment to Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources Contract, R10-15-16. The Governing Board approved the amendment to the Assistant Superintendent/Human Resources contract.

c. Governing Board approval of the 2015-2016 MOU between San Gabriel Unified District, LEA for the San Gabriel Valley Consortium BTSA Induction Program, and La Cañada Unified School District, R8-15-16. The Governing Board approved the 2015-2016 Memorandum of Understanding between San Gabriel Unified District, LEA for the San Gabriel Valley Consortium BTSA Induction Program, and La Cañada Unified School District.

d. Approval of Consulting Agreement, R11-15-16. The Governing Board approved entering into a consulting agreement with Cathleen McMullen for Personnel services for 2015-2016.

e. Gifts to District, R5-15-16. The Governing Board approved the Gifts to District as presented.

f. Purchase Order List 15-14-15. The Governing Board approved Purchase Order List 14-14-15

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Multari reported on the community outreach that she and Mr. Kuszyk will be holding at PTA meetings.

Ms. Sinnette reported on a calendar conflict with the organizational meeting and requested that the Annual Organizational meeting be changed from December 8, 2015 to December 1, 2015. She requested that Mr. Kuszyk and Mrs. Multari take the Oath of Office at the December 1, 2015 meeting prior to the CSBA Educational Conference in San Diego. Mr. Kuszyk will then join the Governing Board at the dais on January 12, 2016. The Governing Board agreed to change the Organizational meeting to December 1, 2015 with Agenda Planning on November 18, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 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

David Sagal, Clerk

Date