

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

January 12, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Governing Board President David Sagal on January 12, 2016, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Governing Board Members David Sagal, Dan Jeffries, Ellen Multari, Kaitzer Puglia, and Brent Kuszyk.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:30 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. David Sagal, President
Mr. Dan Jeffries, Vice President
Mrs. Kaitzer Puglia, Clerk
Mrs. Ellen Multari, Member
Mr. Brent Kuszyk, Member

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Sagal announced 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, Ms. Wenn, Dr. Davis, Mr. Evans and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 5 people in the audience. Mr. Sagal asked LCHS parent Belinda Randolph to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Puglia) to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015, December 1, 2015 and December 10, 2015. It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to amend the minutes of December 10, 2015 to correct an error on page 45 replacing Mr. Blumenfeld's name with Mr. Saga's. The motion to amend the minutes was adopted unanimously. The motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2015, December 1, 2015 and December 10, 2015 as amended was adopted unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Ms. Sinnette provided a review of some of her 18 2015-2016 Superintendent goals. She reported on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) electives and pathways that will be introduced to LCHS 7-12 students in 2016-2017 and beyond. The offerings will be officially rolled out at an upcoming Governing Board meeting. Ms. Sinnette reported on the Superintendent's Task Force on 7-12 Band & Orchestra Program. This

committee's goal is to identify a short and long range action plan to reverse the declining number of students enrolled in band and orchestra. The committee has engaged in extensive action research looking at programs throughout the state of California and the Nation. They have done a curricular review study and have worked with the Assistance League representative on the committee to examine the elementary feeder program and have completed an in-depth analysis of actions and strategies that they might undertake to bolster the program. A sub-committee has been created to make a recommendation to the larger committee who will meet for the last time on January 25, 2016. After the meeting on the 25th, the committee will be able to report out on all steps that the district will be taking. Additionally, through committee recommendation, the district has hired a graduate student from the USC Thornton School of Music to improve the instructional experience of the 9-12 orchestra students.

Two additional committees will begin soon. One committee will review TK/K instruction, daily schedule and program offerings; and the other will be to analyze the daily start time at the high school 7-12, given members of the community's expressed interest in brain research and adolescent sleep patterns

Ms. Sinnette reported that student surveys were delivered to all school sites on Monday, January 11, 2016 and will be administered prior to January 26, 2016. Parent and staff surveys will go live January 19th. Parent surveys will remain open until February 12th. Staff surveys will remain open until February 5th. All of the data will help inform the district on LCAP local priorities, success in achieving metrics and targets; as well as LCAP actions and services.

The LCAP Oversight Committee has over 30 participants and is in full force with a meeting scheduled for this Thursday.

Ms. Sinnette announced that each year the LCUSD Administrative Leadership Team selects an outstanding community leader and volunteer to receive the ACSA Golden Apple Award. This year's Golden Apple Award recipient is Andrew Blumenfeld. An award will be presented to Mr. Blumenfeld at the annual ACSA Region XV breakfast on February 24th.

2. President's Report

Mr. Sagal thanked his fellow board members for allowing him to serve as Governing Board President for 2016. He looks forward to another great year for our schools. He reflected on his past two years as a Governing Board member and the successes of the district during those two years. He wishes all parents could view as Governing Board members do the district's day-to-day efforts to make our schools the best possible learning environment for our kids and their future success. Looking forward, he stated that his vision and goals as a Governing Board member for the next two years, include: helping the community to embrace the change to the Common Core State Standards; to creating a unified music program for all students; advocating for the academic achievement of all students.

3. Chief Business & Operations Officer

Mr. Evans commented on the recent rains, reporting that the primary issues involved diverting the water's intended pathway. He provided an update on the past theft of several iPads, reporting that an additional iPad was located and returned. The district was recently informed that the insurance deductible for the stolen technology is lower than anticipated. He also reported that the recent damage to the band truck is beyond repair and therefore the truck will be replaced.

Mr. Evans provided a brief update on the field replacement project.

Mr. Evans reported that the district will begin the process of creating a new district Facilities Master Plan.

Mr. Evans reported that the Governor's budget proposal came out last week with many apparent positives. He will continue to monitor the Governor's proposal.

4. Student Representative

Student Representative Riley Owen reported on recent and upcoming events throughout the district's school sites as we enter into second semester.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

None.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Patty Compeau, invited the Governing Board to a student showcase on February 4, 2016.
Belinda Randolph, regarding a LCHS math teacher's leave of absence.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. LCUSD Negotiation Proposal to LCTA, R65-15-16

The hearing for the LCUSD Negotiation Proposal to LCTA was opened for public comment at 7:28 p.m. There being no public comment the hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.

2. LCTA Negotiation Proposal to LCUSD, R67-15-16

The hearing for the LCTA Negotiations Proposal to LCUSD was opened for public comment at 7:28 p.m. There being no public comment the hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. First Reading

- a. **Common Assessment Report, First Administration, R71-15-16.** Assessment is an important component of the learning cycle. While the new SBAC summative assessment results provide essential information about last year's performance, more frequent formative assessments are also needed to guide current instruction. Ms. Sinnette introduced Chief Director of Assessment, Lindi Dreibelbis, who was present to report on the common assessments. Ms. Dreibelbis reported that the District Assessment Team consists of 26 representative members who met in 2014-2015 to identify the targeted purposes of assessments and create an implementation, plan and calendar. The foundations of the common assessments are that they are aligned to multiple common core state standards, given commonly by grade and/or subject; that there is an analysis of results by standards, using a tool such as Illuminate; and that the administration and analysis performed by teachers are completed with fidelity according to the district calendar, all to inform instruction. Ms. Dreibelbis reported that TK-1 students are assessed a minimum of two times per year (February and June) while students in grades 2-12 are assessed via a common measure, a minimum of three times per year (Nov., Feb., and June). Ms. Dreibelbis discussed the paradigm shifts related to assessment moving from grading vs. learning, content vs. standards, my kids vs. our kids, summative vs. formative, standardization vs. differentiation, and extrinsic vs. intrinsic motivation. She reported on elementary and secondary highlights. Ms. Dreibelbis reported that Curriculum Council is being reinstated to focus on assessment in the learning cycle. Mr. Jeffries asked how the assessment tests are calibrated and standardized, and expressed concern over using these tests as comparative information from grade to grade and subject to subject. Ms. Dreibelbis clarified that the results of the assessments are a way for the district to look at where we have grown and where growth is still needed, and not a way to compare subjects and grades. The benefit of the assessments is that they are teacher created so the teacher can use the test results as

a way to continually adjust instruction in the classroom. The Governing Board thanked Ms. Dreibelbis for her report.

- b. ***School Accountability Report Cards, R73-15-16.** It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to accept the School Accountability Report Cards. The state of California, acting on the regulations of Proposition 98, requires the Governing Boards of California school districts to prepare and issue an annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for each elementary and high school under their jurisdiction and to make them available to parents and/or guardians on a website. The SARC's contain required information regarding the condition and performance of each school. Mr. Jeffries asked for clarification regarding teacher credentials. Ms. Sinnette clarified the teaching credentialing requirements. Mr. Kuszyk asked for clarification on third grade testing results. Ms. Sinnette reported that 3rd graders tested lower statewide, while 11th grade students tested higher statewide. The motion to accept the School Accountability Report Cards was adopted unanimously.
- c. **Approval of Board Policy Revisions, R74-15-16.** This is a First Reading item. Ms. Sinnette reported that it is important to continually review and update the district's board policies in order to stay on top of changing requirements and/or district needs. As part of this continual review, the district is proposing revisions to BP 5113 Absences and Excuses and BP 5113.1 Chronic Absence and Truancy. The Governing Board asked Ms. Dreibelbis to research whether the change of absences needing a doctor's note from 14 days to 5 days is a standard or required change to district policy. Ms. Dreibelbis will research what other districts are requiring and will present the information in TWIR. This item will come back to the Governing Board for approval at the next regular meeting.
- d. **LCUSD Negotiation Proposal to LCTA, R65-15-16.** The LCUSD Negotiations Proposal to LCTA was presented to the Governing Board. Dr. Davis reported that the district is looking forward to the negotiations process. The district's proposal to LCTA for negotiation items for 2015-16 includes the following Articles and Appendices: Article XI Duties/Hours of Employment; Article XIII Wages; Article XIV Health and Welfare Benefits; and Article XVI Evaluations.
- e. **LCTA Negotiation Proposal to LCUSD, R67-15-16.** The LCTA Negotiations Proposal to LCUSD was presented to the Governing Board. LCTA's proposal to the district for negotiation items for 2015-16 includes the following: Article XIII Wages and Article XIV Health and Welfare Benefits and Collaboration memorandum.
- f. ***Report on 2014-15 Developer Fees Revenue and Expenses, R69-15-16.** Education Code Section 17620 provides for the collection and expenditure of fees based upon new residential and commercial/industrial construction. Mr. Evans provided a revenue overview of 2010-11 through 2014-15 for a total of \$1,081,573.
- g. **Presentation on Summer School Math Instruction, R72-15-16.** The La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation has been providing summer school instruction to LCUSD students since 2011. Communication and collaboration between LCUSD and the La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation (LCFEF) is key to the success of this program. Due to the implementation of Common Core State Standards (CCSS), the LCHS 7-12 Math Department has been designing and implementing new math courses which are aligned with the CCSS and are unique to LCUSD. LCUSD and LCFEF have met extensively to communicate plans for math instruction and progress towards the new math pathways to create summer school opportunities by which students will receive credit and transition to the next math class in sequence. Ms. Wenn thanked Ms. Jinny Dalbeck of La Cañada Educational Foundation Summer School for collaborating with the district to create a summer school pathway that aligns with the district's new math instruction. Mr. Jim Cartnal, Assistant Principal at LCHS was present to provide and update on LCHS Math Instruction and Summer School 2016. Mr. Cartnal provide an overview of the LC Math Pathways Grade 7 – Grade 12.

2. Consent Agenda

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P13-15-16.** The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: *Certificated*: New Hires: Joel Albritton, Leona Darmanian, Josh Rodriguez. Leave of Absence: Ana Aydinian, Bence Szamosfalvi. *Classified*: New Hires: Kelsey Crowther, Raquel Mutuc, Megan Pionk, Suzy Steinbrugge, Lani Turner. Modification/Transfer: Eric Finn, Stephen Jones, Mitchell McClure, Erica Perez. Resignation: Chadwick Johnson, Giselle Macias, Tammy Worcester. Withdrawal of Resignation: Tanisha Smith.
- b. **Contract for Educational and Instructional Programs between Loma Linda University and LCUSD, R76-15-16.** The Governing Board approved entering into a contract for educational and instructional programs between Loma Linda University and the district.
- c. **Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints, R75-15-16.** The Governing Board approved the second quarterly report on Williams Uniform Complaints between October 1 and December 31, 2015.
- d. **Spec Acts: LCHS Vocal Ensemble Southern California Tour, R77-15-16.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Spec Acts request to attend the Vocal Ensemble Southern California Tour in Long Beach, California April 8 – 9, 2016.
- e. **Gifts to District, R68-15-16.** The Governing Board approved the Gifts to District as presented.
- f. **Purchase Order List 10-15-16.** The Governing Board approved Purchase Order List 10-15-16.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Sinnette reported that she will be meeting with Charles Heath regarding a potential general obligation bond and asked for Governing Board direction on whether to present an agenda item at the next meeting. It was requested that an agenda item come to the Governing Board in February.

Ms. Sinnette invited Governing Board members to attend site office hours with her. Governing Board members will email Ms. Sinnette their availability.

Ms. Sinnette reported that the Common Core Steering Committee no longer exists in the Governing Board Liaisons Assignments but Curriculum Council (whose work is currently focused on assessment policy) has been added.

RECONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board reconvened to Closed Session at 9:00 p.m. Closed Session was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Sagal stated that there is nothing to report out of Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 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

Kaitzer Puglia, Clerk

Date