

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

September 25, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Kaitzer Puglia on September 25, 2018, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Governing Board Members Kaitzer Puglia, 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 the four Governing Board Members and Superintendent Wendy Sinnette. Brent Kuszyk joined Closed Session telephonically as posted. Associate Superintendent Anais Wenn, Associate Superintendent Mark Evans, and Chief Technology Officer Jamie Lewsadder joined the Governing Board and the Superintendent in Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mr. Brent Kuszyk, Vice President was not present.

**OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

None.

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Ms. Puglia stated 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 four Governing Board Members, Ms. Sinnette, Mrs. Wenn, Mr. Evans, Ms. Lewsadder and Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 13 people in the audience. Ms. Puglia lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to approve the minutes of August 28, 2018; September 5, 2018; and September 11, 2018. The motion to approve the minutes of August 28, 2018; September 5, 2018; and September 11, 2018 was adopted unanimously (4:0).

**REPORTS**

**1. Superintendent's Report**

Ms. Sinnette reported that in Closed Session the Governing Board set the Superintendent goals for 2018-2019. She will share these goals at the next Governing Board meeting. She reported that the Challenge Success initiative is a significant goal for 2018-2019 and has been a

Superintendent goal since 2016-2017. She reported on the district's participation at the Challenge Success Fall Conference in Northern California. While attending the Fall Conference, the district's Challenge Success team did action research on wellness centers at high performing high schools in Northern California. The action research will help inform the district's wellness center planning for 2019-2020.

Ms. Sinnette extended an invitation to the community to attend the Safety & Security Taskforce Special Governing Board Meeting on Thursday, September 27, 2018. Ms. Sinnette reported on other important events in October, including a safety and security presentation by Chameleon Associates at Paradise Canyon Elementary on October 3, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. and La Canada High School on November 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Madeline Levine, Co-Founder of Challenge Success, will be presenting a parent meeting as part of the Family Learning Series on October 18, 2018 in the La Cañada High School Auditorium 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. The Challenge Success Building Your Path event is October 20, 2018 at La Cañada High School from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**2. President's Report**

Ms. Puglia highlighted the individual work of the Governing Board members. She addressed Mr. Jeffries' work on the Joint Use Committee; she commended Ellen Multari, who is the longest standing member of the current Governing Board, for her legislative voice in the community. Joe Radabaugh is the newest member on the Governing Board. Ms. Puglia commended Mr. Radabaugh for his focus on details related to safety and security issues. Brent Kuszyk has done a great job at reaching out to the community including, community groups, students and alumni. She thanked Student Representative Andrew Kwon for his student representation and support.

**3. Associate Superintendent of Business & Administrative Services' Report**

Mr. Evans reported on upcoming oversight committee meetings stating that the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee and the Citizen's Oversight Committee will both be meeting in October. Mr. Evans provided an update on upcoming bond projects.

**4. Student Representative**

Andrew Kwon reported on recent and upcoming school site events.

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

None.

**OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Mickey Block, Paradise Canyon Elementary teacher expressed gratitude to the Governing Board for the appointment of Carrie Hetzel as Principal of Paradise Canyon Elementary.

**PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS**

**1. First Reading**

- a. **7/8 Independent Study Physical Education, R35-18-19.** Ms. Wenn reported that currently all 7/8 students are assigned to a Physical Education (P.E.) class to comply with Education Code 51222. However, each year the administration receives requests to exempt/excuse from Physical Education classes students who are engaged in competitive sports because of substantial drain on their energy and/or fears of injuries due to overexposure to physical activity. Administration would like to support these students but there is no alternative to P.E. and excusing them from P.E. does not

comply with Education Code. Additionally, annually administrators receive doctor's notes in order to excuse students from physical education activity. These students do not participate in P.E. and end up spending the P.E. period in the counselor's offices or working on assignments in the IRC under a teacher's supervision. LCHS 7/8 administration would like to offer a 6<sup>th</sup> period Independent Study Physical Education course to support competitive athletes and students who are excused from physical activity due to injuries or other health related reasons. Ms. Wenn provided background regarding the high school Physical Education Independent Study program currently being offered for elite athletes. LCHS Assistant Principal Kristina Kalb was present to report on how an elite athlete at the high school level is defined. Due to the age group of 7/8 students it is harder to determine criteria to identify a student as an elite athlete. Dr. Gold reported on the increase in doctor notes to excuse 7/8 students from Physical Education. The Governing Board engaged in discussion to clarify guidelines for a 7/8 Physical Education Independent Study option. Mr. Gary Dennis, guardian of an elementary student, addressed the Governing Board regarding Junior Olympic gymnastics participants in elementary school and the demands on parents and students while participating in a year-long athletic program at the elementary level. Mrs. Wenn suggested at the elementary level that parents work directly with the child's teachers and principal to work on a homework accommodation to assist with athletic demands. Community member Belinda Randolph reported on the lack of consistency in the current policy regarding student athlete exceptions and special accommodations. Ms. Puglia reiterated the curricular standards that the district has to adhere to per Education Code. Mrs. Wenn will bring to the Governing Board detailed guidelines for a 7/8 Physical Education Independent Study program for 2019-2020 for review and approval at an upcoming Governing Board meeting.

- b. **\*Elementary Site Fencing Project, R38-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Radabaugh/Multari) to direct staff to move forward with a final design for the fencing projects at each elementary school site. Mr. Evans reported that the Facilities Master plan identifies several safety and security projects at each of the school sites as part of the Measure LC Bond Program. At its meeting on April 9, 2018, the Governing Board approved an agreement with LPA Architects to prepare studies of fencing options at each elementary site. Input from site staff, the Safety and Security subcommittee, and the architect has been collected to determine the best options for adding fencing to the elementary campuses. Initial drafts for each site were presented at the August 28, 2018 meeting. After Governing Board discussion, direction was given to revisit each site. Based on those meetings, design standards were discussed. A recommendation has been prepared for the Governing Board to adopt design standards, providing direction to the architect to move forward with finalizing the design based on these standards. Ms. Lewsadder, Mr. Evans and Program Manager Harold Pierre provided a presentation regarding the Elementary Schools Fencing Project. Ms. Lewsadder discussed the project history to date. She stated that there has been a culture shift from the playpen fencing concept to campus security and monitoring access. The goal is to include single point of entry during instructional time periods, improving emergency preparedness with visitor protocols and the ability to ensure stronger lockdown procedures. In order to move forward with fencing recommendations, the Governing Board was asked to set districtwide fencing standards. Mr. Pierre reviewed fencing options and discussed the recommended fencing standards. Based on design and safety committee discussions, it was recommended that client facing fencing be 6 feet decorative iron and the back of school fencing be 8 ft. 1 1/4 mesh chain link. Mr. Pierre provided pricing for each option. Mr. Pierre provided preliminary estimated costs per site based on the recommended fencing standards. There was discussion regarding the importance of looking at both aesthetics and cost. Belinda Randolph discussed the importance of 8 ft. fencing. Community member David Haxton

discussed the importance of having a security consultant assist the district with the decision and provided pictures of fencing in the community comparing 6, 7 and 8 foot fencing. The Governing Board discussed height options. After much discussion regarding height options, it was moved and seconded (Jeffries/Multari) to move forward with the fencing projects with 7 foot fencing options for client facing fencing. The motion to direct staff to move forward with the fencing projects at each elementary school site with 7 foot fencing options for client facing fencing was approved unanimously (4:0).

- c. **\*Variable Term Waiver Request, R30-18-19.** It was moved and seconded (Multari/Jeffries) to approve the process of applying to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for variable term waivers on behalf of two elementary physical education teachers. Mr. Evans reported that the district currently employs two elementary physical education teachers who have not yet completed credential requirements for their present assignments, teaching adapted physical education. Both teachers are currently enrolled in credentialing programs to meet the adapted physical education teaching authorization, and both anticipate finishing their credentialing programs by the end of the 2018-19 school year. A variable term waiver request in adapted physical education for each teacher will cover that portion of his or her assignment for this school year. The motion to approve the process of applying to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for variable term waivers on behalf of two elementary physical education teachers was adopted unanimously (4:0).

## 2. **Consent Agenda**

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

- a. **Personnel Report, P5-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the Personnel Report as follows: *Classified:* New Hires: Robert Echeverria, Mijung Konakov, Keoni Liao, Jared Linsel-Janoian, Chloris Turner. Modification: Sandy Miller.
- b. **Spec Acts: LCHS Rim of the World Wrestling Tournament, R23-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Rim of the World Wrestling Tournament in Twin Peaks, California November 30 – December 2, 2018.
- c. **Spec Acts: LCHS California Invitation Tournament – Wrestling, R24-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the California Invitation Tournament – Wrestling in Morro Bay, California January 17 – 19, 2019.
- d. **Spec Acts: LCHS Boys CIF Wrestling, Girls Masters, R25-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Boys CIF Wrestling and Girls Masters playoffs in Southern California February 14 – 16, 2019.
- e. **Spec Acts: LCHS Boys CIF Masters, R26-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Boys Wrestling CIF Masters playoffs in Southern California February 14 – 16, 2019.
- f. **Spec Acts: LCHS Girls CIF State Wrestling, R27-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Girls CIF State Wrestling in Bakersfield, California February 21 – 23, 2019.
- g. **Spec Acts: LCHS Wrestling Overnight In-House Retreat, R28-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Wrestling Overnight In-House Retreat at La Cañada High School September 28, 2018.
- h. **Spec Acts: LCHS Orchestra Retreat R31-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend the Orchestra Retreat at Angeles Crest Christian Camp in Valyermo, California January 25 – 27, 2019.
- i. **Spec Acts: LCHS Crystal Springs Cross Country Invitational, R33-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCHS Special Activity request to attend Crystal Springs Cross Country Invitational in Belmont, California October 5 – 7, 2018.

- j. **Spec Acts: LCE Time Capsule/Ocean Institute, R37-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the LCE Special Activity request to attend Time Capsule/Ocean Institute in Dana Point, California November 28-30, 2018.
- k. **Agreement for CEQA Consulting Services, R34-18-19.** The Governing Board approved entering into an agreement with FirstContact Solutions for CEQA Consulting Services.
- l. **Change Order: LCHS Roofing Project, R32-18-19.** The Governing Board approved the change order for La Cañada High School bid package 5102018 (600 Building) project totaling \$29,623.00.
- m. **Purchase Order List 6-18-19.** The Governing Board approved Purchase Order List 6-18-19.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Multari reported that she recently received compliments from community members regarding Paradise Canyon Elementary's Principal Carrie Hetzel.

Due to a calendar conflict, it was requested that the Governing Board meeting on December 11, 2018 be moved to December 13, 2018.

The Governing Board Holiday Party was calendared for December 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.

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Wendy K. Sinnette, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Governing Board

### **MINUTES APPROVED**

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Joe Radabaugh, Clerk

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Date