



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 17, 2021
MINUTES**

Call to Order

In accordance with Governor Newsom's executive orders of social distancing due to the COVID-19, the Special Board of Education meeting was held on Thursday, June 17, 2021, as a teleconference/video conference meeting where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment via the public comments email address or live via the Zoom platform. Public Streaming of the Special Board Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88425372265?pwd=MzdPMTI5cnVxM3YvK3BFZFwOTNnZz09>. Those in attendance were:

Board President	Ms. Velma Lomax
Board Member	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Member	Ms. Amy Callahan
Board Member	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Superintendent	Dr. Roger Rice
Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services	Ms. Rebecca Chandler
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services	Dr. Antonio Castro
Asst. Supt./Human Resources	Mr. Brett Taylor
General Counsel	Mr. Anthony Ramos

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Mr. Matt Almaraz. Abstain: None.

REGULAR SESSION - Ron Halt Classroom - 1:00 p.m.

At 1:00 p.m., Board President Velma Lomax called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a public comment via e-mail and live via Zoom*:

- Deborah Meyer Morris* thanking VUSD for their hard work on the LCAP this year and encouraging VUSD to provide math interventionists especially for middle and high school students.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

8.a PUBLIC HEARING - Regarding Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

President Lomax opened up the public hearing as required regarding the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). The public had the opportunity to attend in person at 5200 Valentine Rd. Ventura, CA 93003 or via public streaming at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88425372265?pwd=MzdPMTI5cnVxM3YvK3BFZFwOTNnZz09>. The LCAP was available for public review on the district website at https://www.venturausd.org/Portals/3/2021-24_Local_Control_and_Accountability_Plan_Ventura_Unified_School_District_20210614.pdf.

8.b PUBIC HEARING - Regarding 2021-22 Proposed Budgets

President Lomax opened up the public hearing as required regarding the 2021-22 proposed budgets. The public had the opportunity to attend in person at 5200 Valentine Rd. Ventura, CA 93003 or via public streaming at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88425372265?pwd=MzdPMTI5cnVxM3YvK3BFZFNwOTNnZz09>. The budgets were made available for public review in the Business Services department and on the website at <https://www.venturausd.org/business/BusinessServices/FinancialReports.aspx>.

CONFERENCE - BUSINESS SERVICES

9.a 2021-22 Budget Overview and Discussion

Ms. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, and Ms. Anna Campbell, Director of Budget & Finance, presented on the 2021-22 Budget. A review of total costs for each expense type was given. It was noted that the total costs included anticipated overtime and substitute pay. Salary expenses, further broken-down by positions were discussed. A review of total costs for the following categories were discussed: supplies, facilities, transportation, and food and nutrition.

A brief overview of the budget versus the LCAP was given. A chart provided a summary of how much Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) plans to spend for 2021-22 school year. Of the \$206,960,333, \$24,068,785 is tied directly to planned actions and services in the LCAP. It was noted that there was a 2.6 million dollar increase from the 2020-21 budget for Step and Column, and an additional 3.3 million increase in Statutory Benefits (STRS, PERS, Medicare, SUI, and Worker's Comp). Items that are negotiable within the budget and additional regulations and requirements were also discussed.

A review of declining enrollment was discussed and included enrollment projects through 2027. It was noted that each students brings in \$8600 and over the last two years, VUSD is down 1000 students or 8.6 million dollars. It is projected that over the next three years, we will lose an additional 11.6 million dollars due to declining enrollment. Ms. Chandler stated that VUSD is in the process of forming a Declining Enrollment Committee.

The following requests/suggestions were made from the Board members:

- Curriculum expenses to be pulled out separately from the totals and to differentiate which were paid through our budget and which through a CTE grant; to be included in a Friday Letter.
- A list of expenses incurred from things that VUSD is mandated to provide, but that are not fully reimbursed for.
- Differentiate the amount of transportation costs between regular education and special education students.
- Board consensus to discuss declining enrollment at one Board meeting per month over the next year.

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

10.a 2021-2024 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Overview and Discussion

Dr. Antonio Castro, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, thanked all VUSD committees, especially the LCAP committee, for their commitment and dedication. The 2021-2024 LCAP Goals were reviewed which include: 1) Increase student achievement for all students while decreasing performance gaps; 2) Provide a safe and secure environment for all staff and students; and 3) Increase parent and community involvement.

The LCAP includes general information such as a description of the Local Education Agency (LEA) a reflection section on successes and/or progress based on a review of the California School Dashboard and local data; a reflections section on identified needs or any areas that need significant improvement based on the review of Dashboard and local data; LCAP highlights or any key features that should be emphasized; comprehensive support and improvement; stakeholder engagement including a summary of the stakeholder process; and a comprehensive list of goals and actions.

Dr. Castro reviewed the 2021-22 LCFF Budget Overview for Parents Data Input Sheet which reviewed the 2021-22 budget and planned expenditures. Dr. Castro explained that VUSD's supplemental and concentration apportionment to serve unduplicated students (English learners, low-income, foster youth) is \$ 16,896,461. VUSD students making up the unduplicated population exceeds 56% of all students, above the 55% threshold that allows Districts to implement district-wide planning when Actions are 'principally directed' toward and 'increase and improve' services for unduplicated populations.

An overview of each of the LCAP Goals and Actions were reviewed and discussed by the Board. There was Board consensus to add a student advisory committee, to expand counseling services at the elementary school level, and to look into creating a Public Information Officer (PIO) position.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 4:16 p.m. to the next Regular Board meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 22, 2021.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Mr. Matt Almaraz. Abstain: None.

APPROVED



President



Secretary

From: [morriskpartyof4](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Dahm, Amy](#); [Lomax, Velma](#)
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Fwd: Special Board Meeting June 17, 2021 -LCAP Public Comments
Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021 9:41:43 AM

Hello: I was advised that I sent my public comment to the incorrect location earlier, therefore I am resending it again to this email address. I am requesting a Zoom link in order to be able to read my public comment at the special board meeting today, as well as to have it made part of the public record.

Thank you,
Deborah

-----Original Message-----

From: morriskpartyof4@

Subject: Re: Special Board Meeting June 17, 2021 -LCAP Public Comments

Dear Drs. Rice, Castro and Molinar:

Thank you all this well thought out and data driven LCAP, and for listening to the various stakeholders who came to LCAP meetings to address equity and achievement gaps and provide suggestions for improvements based on our students' lived experiences as students in VUSD.

After speaking to Sol about the lack of equitable access to electives for ELL/SWD and other struggling students since she was the Principal of Anacapa and I was the PTO President during 2010-2012, as well as campaigning on this issue in 2018, it is wonderful to finally see addressing these access and self-esteem building opportunities, as well as students' social-emotional issues as a district priority. Likewise, it is also wonderful to see that addressing the math and ELA achievement gaps for these same student groups is also being funded this year by as TOSA positions. However, with regard to high school and middle school math aside from TOSAs, SWD and other struggling math students receiving interventions, there is an urgent need for tutors and imbedded math interventionalists to assist these struggling students in real time to accelerate their missed learning as it will be impossible to go back and remediate this much material, particularly for those in high school who were already far below meeting standards prior to the pandemic shutdown. Therefore, I hope that the district will give serious consideration to training and employing trained math interventionalist for this purpose as well as for staffing guided studies periods in high school and middle school.

I would also like to commend the LCAP team for their enhanced efforts at data desegregation and analysis this year. Yes, this data is not pretty, however, the district cannot improve student marginalized student outcomes without first being able to identify the root cause of the equity gaps for each of the marginalized student groups. All VUSD students matter and each of them needs to leave VUSD schools with critical reasoning skills and life skills that will empower them to become successful employable adults.

Sincerely,
Deborah Meyer-Morris
VUSD LCAP Committee Member
Chair, East Ventura Community Council