



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
March 14, 2022
ADOPTED 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 Monday, March 14, 2022, 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. The public streaming of the Special Board meeting was made available through Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85019733265?pwd=VIZUNktXSThWbWVnWTZud01kYUZZGdz09>.

Those in attendance were:

Board President	Mr. Matt Almaraz
Board Vice President	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Member	Ms. Amy Callahan
Board Member	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Board Member	Ms. Velma Lomax
Superintendent	Dr. Roger Rice
Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services	Ms. Rebecca Chandler
Asst. Supt/Human Resources	Ms. Gina Wolowicz
General Counsel	Mr. Anthony Ramos

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Mr. Matt Almaraz and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

REGULAR SESSION

At 9:00 a.m., Board Vice-President Sabrena Rodriguez, called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comments

None.

ACTION ITEMS

8.a Ventura Unified School District - Use of City Council Chambers

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to approve staff to draft a letter to the City of Ventura regarding potential use of City Council Chambers for Board meetings.

Ayes: Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan

Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONFERENCE - SUPERINTENDENT

9.a Board Priorities for the 2022-23 School Year

Superintendent Dr. Roger Rice noted that the discussion would center around student achievement, providing a safe and secure environment, and community and parent engagement, all of which are incorporated into our Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Dr. Soledad Molinar, Director of Multilingual and Multicultural Education, presented on Reclassification. Dr. Molinar discussed the indicator of readiness and criteria used to reclassify students, including an Assessment of English Language Proficiency, basic skills relative to English Proficient Students, teacher evaluation and parent consultation. Elementary Reclassification Data was reviewed and interventions being used and/or needed were discussed.

Ms. Maria Elizarraras, Director of Student Support Services, presented on chronic absenteeism. Data was reviewed for Elementary, Middle and High School students over the course of three academic years and a comparison made with the state average. Ms. Elizarraras discussed suspension rates over the past four academic school years and expulsions over the past five academic school years. Lastly a review of the California Healthy Kids Survey data (CHKS) was reviewed.

Dr. Greg Bayless, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed the secondary D & F rates for Quarter two over the past five years, and Math Readiness test data for all 9th grade students. The data showed that D/F rates and Math Readiness course placements have increased over the past five years. As a result, High School credit deficiency rates have increased, UC/CSU A-G rates in High School have decreased, and there are lower elective enrollment and CTE completion rates. Dr. Bayless noted that there is over-representations of some student groups in the D/F rates and reviewed next steps to address these issues.

Mr. Marcus Konantz, Director of Special Education, reviewed several Special Education focus areas which align with the three LCAP Goals and discussed data points used for each of them. For LCAP Goal 1, they include student learning goal process monitoring data and D/F rate data. For LCAP Goal 2, they include discipline and attendance considerations, Triennial Assessment data, student goal progress monitoring data, and the annual Performance Report data provided by the California Department of Education(CDE). Lastly, for LCAP Goal 3, data points include a monthly SEDAC meeting, timely IEP meeting, procedural safeguards and annual reporting data (CDE).

Mr. Hector Guerrero, Principal of El Camino High School, presented on Alternative Education Programs. Mr. Guerrero noted that there has been a large surge in Middle School and High School enrollment. He reviewed the alternative education programs offered through VUSD including the enrollment data and staffing allocation. Mr. Guerrero noted that 25% of all 10th and 11th grade students are currently credit deficient.

Dr. Rice led an activity with the Board and Cabinet Members where individuals were given time to list strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) regarding student achievement, safe and secure environment, and community and parent engagement. Individuals were then given the opportunity to choose a "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" on each item listed sharing whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement. The Board asked that the SWOT activity also be given to all VUSD Principals for their input. The Board had consensus for the staff to review the answers and structure them into Board Priorities with Board President Matt Almaraz, before bringing back a Board Priorities draft at a future Board meeting for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Matt Almaraz, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 2:49 p.m., to the next Regular Board Meeting on March 22, 2022.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

APPROVED

Matthew P. Anderson President
Roger Puel Secretary