VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 13, 2022
ADOPTED MINUTES

Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at the ESC Board Room, where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment in person. Those in attendance were:

Board President	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Vice President	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Board Member	Ms. Amy Callahan
Board Member	Ms. Velma Lomax
Board Member	Mr. Calvin Peterson
Superintendent	Dr. Antonio Castro
Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services	Ms. Rebecca Chandler
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services	Dr. Greg Bayless
Asst. Supt/Human Resources	Ms. Gina Wolowicz

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve as Amended the agenda with the following change: Items #16.a and #16.b were moved up in the agenda to proceed the action items beginning at 14.a.

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

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

The following individual gave a closed session public comment:

1. Dan Nelson regarding item 6.c, conference with labor negotiators.

Motion to go to Closed Session

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:04 p.m.

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

REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

None.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Antonio Castro shared that he has been out visiting school sites and that it has been a great start to the school year.

Dr. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, introduced Ms. Terri Allison, Director of Facilities, and Facilities Managers, Mr. Mark Mayer and Ms. Robbie Pennington, to give an update on projects completed over the summer. Ms. Allison gave a shout-out to all trade and grounds crews for their amazing work.

Dr. Castro introduced Dr. Soledad Molinar, the new Executive Director of Educational Services. Dr. Molinar took a moment to thank Dr. Castro and the Board, then introduced members of her family.

Dr. Castro reviewed information related to negotiations, including the increase costs of step and column, and increases in health care costs. He noted that negotiations would be continuing.

Student Board Members Nathan Arthur, representing Buena High School, Gino Cesares representing Pacific High School, and Mateo Navarro, representing Ventura High School, gave brief updates on the exciting things happening at their school sites.

Correspondence

None.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a public comment:

1. Caitlyn O'Neil regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
2. Tessa Shinden regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
3. Nathan B. regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
4. Joseph Parcher regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
5. Natalie LeFevre regarding the removal of the prep period for the academies at Foothill High School.
6. Kara Miller regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
7. Mika Anderson regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
8. Beth Borer regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
9. Dan Nelson regarding negotiations, a pay increase, and working conditions.
10. Crystal Schreiner regarding negotiations, a pay increase, and HVAC issues at Anacapa.
11. Paula Barone regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
12. Sebastien Declerck regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
13. Shannon Lopez regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
14. Lori Dearman regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School and in support of VUEA and VESPA.
15. Barbara Walker regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
16. Eva Cherrie regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
17. James Parcher regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School and regarding ASB being removed and then re-established.
18. Steve Strong regarding negotiations, a pay increase, laptops for Para's, the need for a SPED secretary, and healthcare benefits for Para's.
19. Russell Gibbs regarding reallocation of coordinating periods at Foothill High School.
20. Leah Salcedo regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
21. Karl Chaffey regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
22. Sara McLaughlin regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
23. Alyssa McLaughlin regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
24. Yonni Schwartz regarding the removal of the prep period for the Bioscience academy at Foothill High School.
25. Michelle Garland regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
26. Carol Peek regarding negotiations and a pay increase.
27. Darcy Duffy regarding the removal of the prep period for the Biosciences/DTech academies at Foothill High School.

ACTION ITEMS

14.a **2021-22 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report and Annual GANN Limit Resolution 23-37**

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Velma Lomax and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the 2021-22 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report and Annual GANN Limit Resolution #23-37 as presented.

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

14.b **Ventura Education Support Professionals Association's (VESPA) Appointee to the Personnel Commission**

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the Ventura Education Support Professionals Association's Appointee to the Personnel Commission, Ms. Cathi Stallings.

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

14.c **Approval of Provisional Intern Permits (PIP) and Waivers**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the provisional intern permits and waivers as presented.

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

14.d **Supplementary curriculum Imagine Math and Imagine Language & Literacy Pilot: ATLAS K-6 (First Read)**

Dr. Soledad Molinar, Executive Director of Educational Services, presented information on supplementary curriculum *Imagine Math and Imagine Language & Literacy that* ATLAS would like to pilot for the 2022-23 school year. Dr. Molinar noted that the pilot is a web-based program. Ms. Anna Winslow, Principal of ATLAS, shared additional information and noted that 100% of her staff supported this program.

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the supplementary curriculum Imagine Math and Imagine Language and Literacy Pilot for ATLAS K-6. as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Calvin Peterson
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan*. Abstain: None.

*Board Member Ms. Amy Callahan recused herself from this vote.

14.e **Administrative Recommendation for Student Re-Admission from Expulsion**

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the administrative recommendation for student re-admission from expulsion for student # 22-02 as presented.

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

14.f **Proposed Change, Deletion to Board Bylaw (BB)9270, related to a Conflict of Interest (First Read)**

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the proposed change/deletion to Board Bylaw (BB)9270, related to conflict of interest as presented.

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

14.g **Consideration to Participate in the California School Board Association's, Education Workforce Housing Workshop Series**

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to participate in the California School Board's Association's, Education Workforce Housing Workshop Series. There was Board consensus to have Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez and Trustee Jerry Dannenberg participate in the workshop series.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Ms. Velma Lomax; Mr. Calvin Peterson
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

15.a **Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) Update**

Dr. Lorelle Dawes, Director of Expanded Learning, gave an update on the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP). Dr. Dawes noted that the free expanded learning program must be offered to all unduplicated pupils (U.P.) in grades TK-6, which include students who are homeless, foster, eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or English Learners. She noted that services must be provided to 50% or more of the U.P. Access must be offered for 9 hours/day, all 180 school days, plus an additional 30 days for 9 hours/day. Dr. Dawes shared that Expanded Learning must provide engaging activities in 1) Academics/literacy, 2) Recreation/physical activities, and 3) Enrichment such as fine arts, STEM, career technical education, or prevention activities. Dr. Dawes noted that the purpose of ELOP is to close achievement gaps by supporting academic achievement of U.P., decreasing performance gaps, shrinking opportunity gaps, and supporting families in VUSD.

CONFERENCE - BUSINESS SERVICES

16.a **Healthcare Benefits Update**

Dr. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, noted that the Healthcare Benefits Committee met earlier today. Committee Members include Trustees Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and Mr. Calvin Peterson, along with VUEA President Mr. Dan Nelson and VESPA President Ms. Carol Peek. Dr. Chandler noted that this item would be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

16.b **District Budget Discussion**

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Rebecca Chandler, discussed changes from the 22-23 Original Budget from June 2022, the 22-23, 45-Day Budget from August 2022, and the 22-23 Pre-1st Interim Budget from September 2022. It was noted that several sources of funding are first-time funds and do not currently have trailer bill language associated with them, therefore cannot be used towards salaries at this time. Dr. Chandler noted that we are currently working on a communications plan that includes having a negotiations webpage.

Dr. Chandler noted that Ventura County has the second highest declining enrollment in the state. A graph of Ventura Unified School District's Enrollment Trend was reviewed for the years 1996 through 2022. It was noted that both the Thomas Fire and the pandemic led to a large decrease in student enrollment.

Dr. Chandler noted that inflation has caused CalSTRS and CalPERS to increase close to three million dollars from the 21-22 school year to the 22-23 school year. The annual healthcare cost per employee has also increased by over 5.3 million dollars from the 21-22 to the 22 -23 school year. Dr. Chandler noted that VUSD is one of only two districts in Ventura County that pay 100% for health fees for full-time employees.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item #20.f was pulled for a separate vote.

It was moved by Ms. Velma Lomax, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve item #20.f as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Calvin Peterson
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan*. Abstain: None.
* Trustee Amy Callahan recused herself from this item.

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent items #17.a through 20.e, and 20.g through 21.a as presented.

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

CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

17.a Overnight, Out of the Tri-County and Ratification Field Trips

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

18.a Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

18.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

18.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2022-23 School Year

18.d Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Substitute Teachers for the 2022-23 School Year

18.e Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

18.f Ratification of Administration's Approval of Assignments Through Various Education Codes

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

19.a Classified Position Changes

19.b Classified Personnel Changes

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

20.a CDE Consolidated Application for Funding, Categorical Aid Programs (Part I and II), 2022-23

20.b Award of Architectural Contract for C9-23 Fencing at Various Sites

20.c Notice of Completion for C8-23 Asphalt at Juanamaria, Rebid Project

20.d Ratification of Change Order

20.e Ratification of Purchase Orders and Contracts

20.f Ratification of Check Payments

20.g Ratification of Purchase Orders, Contracts, and Checks - Limited

20.h Disposition of Obsolete and Surplus Items

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

21.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Velma Lomax shared that she is the chair of the Oakview Advisory Commission.

Trustee Amy Callahan noted her attendance at the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting where Dr. Castro led a conversation that aligned with our goal of connectedness. Ms. Callahan also recently attended the California Latino School Board Association (CLSBA) conference.

COMING EVENTS

- Superintendent Listening Tours:
  - September 14, 5:30 – 7 p.m. @ Ventura High School (English with Spanish Interpreters)
  - September 20, 5:30 – 7 p.m. @ Buena High School (English with Spanish Interpreters)
  - October 4, 5:30 – 7 p.m. @ DATA Middle School (Spanish only)

- Teacher of the Month Celebrations:
  - September 22: Lemon Grove School
  - October 6: Loma Vista Elementary

- Back-to-School Nights:
  - September 14: Mound & Sheridan Way
  - September 15: Buena, J. Serra, & Pierpont
  - September 20: E.P. Foster & Sunset
  - September 21: Pacific
  - September 22: El Camino, Foothill, & Elmhurst

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

- Grant Writer & CTE Update - October 11
- Board Conference and Travel - TBD
- Emergency Preparedness - TBD

There was Board consensus to add the following:

- Special Study Session on Negotiations
- Special Study Session on the Budget
- CAASPP Data

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS - (No official action will be taken)

None.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board returned to closed session at 11:09 p.m. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 a.m., until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting to be held on September 27, 2022.

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

APPROVED 

President

Secretary