



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 7, 2023
ADOPTED MINUTES**

Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at the ESC Board Room, where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment in person. The meeting was steamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@VenturaUnifiedSchoolDistrict/streams>. Those in attendance were:

Board President	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Vice President	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Board Member	Ms. Amy Callahan
Board Member	Mr. Calvin Peterson
Board Member	Mr. James Forsythe
Superintendent	Dr. Antonio Castro
Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services	Mr. Ahsan Mirza
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services	Dr. Greg Bayless
Asst. Supt./Human Resources	Ms. Gina Wolowicz

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe

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

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None.

Motion to go to Closed Session

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 go to closed session at 5:32 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe

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

REGULAR SESSION - Board Room - 7:00 p.m.

At 7:07 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. Trustee Peterson took a moment to acknowledge Black History Month.

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

No action was taken in closed session.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Antonio Castro, recognized National School Counseling week and thanked the VUSD School Counselors for all they do.

Dr. Castro recognized the VUSD Gratitude Award recipients for January. The Gratitude Awards were designed to recognize exceptional VUSD teachers, employees, volunteers, students, and administrators. There were a total of 20 submissions that will receive a certificate of acknowledgment. Four individuals were randomly selected to also receive an Amazon gift card.

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

Correspondence

12.a Ventura County Office of Education

Board President Sabrena Rodriguez shared that VUSD received correspondence from the Ventura County Office of Education, which stated they reviewed the first interim report and subsequent disclosure of collective bargaining, and agree with the District's positive certification. They noted that the district must develop an action plan with significant ongoing expenditure reductions to align with the loss of ongoing revenue due to declining enrollment.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a public comment:

1. Heather Lacayo regarding concerns about class size and information shared at the LCAP meetings.
2. Jen Swartzentruber regarding school climate and her concerns with the fencing that is being put up to harden our schools.
3. Cherie Egbert regarding her concerns with a vendor being used for fencing at VUSD schools.

ACTION ITEMS

14.a Request for Consideration of Two New Courses: CTE Leadership/Internship Directed Studies and CTE CAP Organic Farm to Fork

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve two new CTE courses: CTE Leadership/Internship Directed Studies and CTE Capstone Organic Farm to Fork as presented.

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

14.b Request for Consideration of New Course: CTE Capstone Commercial Photography (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the new CTE Capstone Commercial Photography course as presented.

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

14.c Consideration of Resolution No. 23-05, Resolution of the Board of Education of the Ventura Unified School District Formally Approving Joining California Schools Employee Benefits Organization (CSEBO) as a New Member (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve Resolution No. 23-05, Resolution of the Ventura Unified School District formally approving joining California Schools Employee Benefits Organization (CSEBO) as a new member as presented.

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

14.d Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) , 2023 Summer School and 2023 Extended School Year Programs

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the VUSD and VUEA Memorandum of Understanding regarding the 2023 summer school and extended school year programs as presented.

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

14.e Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Educational Support Professional (VESPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) , 2023 Summer School and 2023 Extended School Year Programs

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the VUSD and VESPA Memorandum of Understanding regarding the 2023 summer school and extended school year programs as presented.

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

14.f Certification of Signatures (Amended)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the amended Certification of Signatures as presented.

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

14.g Ballot for California School Board Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly (First Reading)

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to cast their vote for Ms. Rebecca Cramer, as a representative to the CSBA Delegate Assembly from subregion 11-B.

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

14.h Consideration of Resolution No. 23-04, Continuing Board of Trustees Authority to Hold Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB 361

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve Resolution No. 23-04, continuing Board of Trustees authority to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB361.

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

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

15.a Dashboard Data Update

Dr. Greg Bayless, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented information on the California Dashboard found at www.caschooldashboard.org. Dr. Bayless noted that typically,

a year-to-year change is shown. However, for 2022, only status bars are shown due to reporting data not being available for the 2020/2021 school year. Dr. Bayless explained that the CA Dashboard includes data on academic performance (i.e. Math data, English Language Arts [ELA] data, English Learner Progress Indicator [ELPI], and College and Career Indicator [CCI]), academic engagement (i.e. chronic absenteeism and graduation rate), and Conditions and Climate (suspension rate). Dr. Bayless then reviewed data for VUSD.

Dr. Bayless noted that the next LCAP Meeting will be on April 19, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the McAuliffe Room at the Education Service Center (ESC). The Board suggested that the LCAP data be available before the meeting for people to review and to provide families with a hard copy of their student's test scores in addition to the scores being available in Q.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve as Amended as amended, consent items # 16-20 as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe

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

CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

- 17.a Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year
- 17.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2022-23 School Year
- 17.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year
- 17.d Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

- 18.a Classified Personnel Changes
- 18.b Classified Position Changes

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

- 19.a Notice of Completion for C6-23 #1 Roofing at Various Sites - Cabrillo and Juanamaria
- 19.b Award of Bid C2-24 Juanamaria HVAC
- 19.c Ratification of Change Order #5, C1-23 Mound Fire Reconstruction
- 19.d Ratification of Purchase Orders and Contracts
- 19.e Ratification of Check Payments
- 19.f Donations to Ventura Unified School District and Schools

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

20.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

Board Member Mr. James Forsythe noted his attendance at the Westside Community Council meeting.

Board Member Mr. Calvin Peterson shared that he attended the Buena/Ventura basketball game, a field trip to Sa'aliyas Ranch with Mrs. Elliot's class, and the teacher of the month celebration at E.P. Foster.

Board Member Ms. Amy Callahan noted her attendance at the Governor's Budget Workshop at the Ventura County Office of Education and the recent VUSD LCAP meeting.

Board Member Dr. Jerry Dannenberg shared that he attended the LCAP meeting, Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting, the teacher of the month celebration at E.P. Foster, and the Ventura Education Partnership (VEP) Social Justice and the Arts event that took place at the Museum of Ventura County.

Board Member Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez noted her attendance at the following events: E.P. Foster Family Night, VEP Art and Social Justice event, Ventura County Honor Band concert, Special Education District Advisory Committee (SEDAC) meeting, College Area Community Council meeting, Ventura County School Board Association (VCSBA) meeting, Employee Workforce Housing Training meeting, General Plan Advisory Committee meeting, and the Energy Alliance Committee meeting.

COMING EVENTS

- District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) – February 9 at 6:30 p.m.
- Special Board Meeting – Budget, February 11 at 9:00 a.m.
- Lincoln's Birthday – District Closed, February 13
- African American Parent Committee (AAPC) – February 15 at 6:00 p.m.
- President's Day – District Closed, February 20
- Special Education District Advisory Committee (SEDAC) – February 24 at 9:00 a.m.

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

None.

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

None.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no need to return to closed session.


ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting on February 28, 2023.


Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe

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

APPROVED



President



Secretary