



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
June 27, 2023
ADOPTED MINUTES**

Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at the ESC Board Room, where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment in person. Streaming of the meeting was unavailable due to an internet outage; however, the recording of the meeting was made available on June 28 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. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan*. Abstain: None.
*Ms. Amy Callahan was absent from regular session

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 4 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:32 p.m.

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

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

At 7:15 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the public employment/appointment, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b), of Ms. Vanessa Contreras, as the new Principal of E.P. Foster Elementary.

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

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

*Ms. Callahan attended closed session via teleconference.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent, Dr. Antonio Castro, gave a shout-out to Ms. Marieanne Quiroz, Director of Communications and PIO, for receiving two National School Public Relations Association 2023 Excellence Awards for the VUSD Website Redesign and the VUSD At a Glance Viewbook. Dr. Castro also shared that a student from Buena High School, Bennett Urwick, received 1st place in the 2023 Congressional Art Competition for his piece *The Backbone of Industry*. Dr. Castro shared that the artwork will be displayed in the U.S. Capital for one year.

Correspondence

None.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a public comment:

- Jose Arias in favor of a Community Workforce Agreement

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

14.a PUBLIC HEARING - Regarding the Consideration of a Possible Energy Conservation Contract Pursuant to Government Code Section 4217.10 et seq.

A 7:33 p.m., the Board of Education of the Ventura Unified School District held a public hearing pursuant to Government Code section 4217.10 et seq. to allow for public comment prior to authorizing the negotiation of a contract with Empowered Solutions, LLC, a Veregy Company, to conduct HVAC assessments and maintenance at various District properties funded through California's School Reopening Ventilation and Energy Efficiency Verification and Repair Program ("CalSHAPE Program"). The public hearing took place at the District's Education Service Center Boardroom, located at 255 West Stanley Ave., Suite 100, Ventura, CA 93001. There were no public comments given. The Public Hearing closed at 7:35 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

15.a Adoption of the 2023-24 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) including Local Indicators and ESSA Federal Addendum

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the 2023-24 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), including Local Indicators and ESSA Federal Addendum, as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.b Adoption of the 2023-2024 District Budget

Mr. Ahsan Mirza, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, answered questions from Board Members regarding expenditures. Mr. Mirza noted that the 6.5-million-dollar Chrome Book purchase was spent from the 2022-23 school year ESSER funds and that the expenditure had been Board approved. Mr. Mirza noted that the ESSER III monies must be used by the end of next year, and by using these funds, categorical funds can be freed up for other items. Mr. Mirza asked Mr. Tom Kranzler, Executive Director of Technology Services, to share information on this year's technology purchases/needs. Mr. Kranzler shared that the VUSD Technology Department brought Promethean boards to school sites that requested for teachers to get familiar with their capabilities. Mr. Kranzler also had Promethean boards available at the district for staff to try. Mr. Kranzler noted that a survey was sent out to staff and received responses from 50% of the staff. Out of the 50%, 88% selected Promethean boards over T.V.'s. Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Dr. Greg Bayless, noted how Chrome Books and Promethean boards should be looked at as

instructional materials. Mr. Mirza also shared information regarding reserve funding for economic uncertainty and for declining ADA.

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 2023-24 District Budget as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.c Consideration of Supplemental Novels Recommended by the Supplemental Novel Adoption Committee (First Reading)

The Board requested that VUSD staff confirm that there is a list of supplemental reading books listed on our website.

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the supplemental novels recommended by the Supplemental Novel Committee as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.d Contract Amendment for the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the amendment to the contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Business Services beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.e Contract Amendment for the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the amendment to the contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.f Contract Amendment for the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources (First Reading)

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the amendment to the contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

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

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Amy Callahan. Abstain: None.

15.g Contract Amendment for the Superintendent (First Reading)

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 amendment to the contract for the Superintendent beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

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

15.h Request for Consideration of a New Course; Sports and Event Management (First Reading)

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Dr. Greg Bayless, noted that the Sports and Event Management course is A-G approved and that Buena High School will be the only school in Ventura County to offer this course.

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the new course: Sports and Event Management as presented.

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

15.i Request for Consideration of a Textbook (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the *Sports Facility and Event Management* textbook as presented.

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

15.j Request for Approval of CTE Vehicle Purchase (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the purchase of two additional SUV's/Van's as presented.

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

15.k Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA) Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) - (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA) Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

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

15.l Consideration of Approvals to Donate the E.P. Foster Water Fountain (First Reading)

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the donation of the E.P. Foster water fountain to the Ventura Botanical Gardens as presented.

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

CONFERENCE - BUSINESS SERVICES

16.a Presentation of 2021-22 Final Audit Report by External Auditors

Mr. Ahsan Mirza, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, introduced Mr. Taylor Ullrich, a representative of Clifton Larson Allen, LLP of Glendora, California, to present a formal presentation of the Audit Report. Mr. Ullrich reported that financial statements, taken as a whole, present fairly the financial position in conformity with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principals). Mr.

Ullrich noted that there were three state compliance findings. However, none of the findings modified their opinion. Mr. Ullrich also noted two differences between Unaudited Actuals presented to the Board in September 2022.

16.b Solar Update

Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, Mr. Ahsan Mirza, noted that the RFQ process was open for two weeks and has now closed. Mr. Mirza noted that only one RFQ was submitted from ENGIE Services. There was Board consensus to move forward with preparing a contract with ENGIE Services. The Board also requested that the district look into similar contracts and compare pricing.

16.c Presentation of the Proposed 2023-24 Contract and Agreement Renewals

Director of Fiscal Services, Ms. Anna Campbell, distributed the proposed 2023-24 contract and agreement renewal spreadsheet to the Board and copies were made available to the public. Superintendent, Dr. Antonio Castro, shared that the Board has given feedback on the types of contracts and renewals exceeding \$25,000 that should be included in this format and approved by the Board as an action item on the agenda, as opposed to a consent item. Ms. Campbell shared that this new process would begin in July to be transparent with the spending of district funds. Ms. Campbell suggested adding this item to the Governance calendar in April of each year. The Board also requested that we add an LCAP goal to each line item so we can see how it affects students.

At 9:13 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called for a short break. The meeting resumed at 9:22 p.m.

16.d Emergency Treatment Use of Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan)

Director of Risk Management, Mr. Eric Reynolds, presented information on the emergency treatment use of Naloxone Hydrochloride (Narcan) or another Opioid Antagonist. Mr. Reynolds noted that there had been a change in Education Code 49414.3, which permits school districts to provide emergency naloxone hydrochloride or other opioid antagonists to school nurses or trained volunteers who have volunteered to provide emergency medical aid to a person suffering or reasonably believed to be suffering from an opioid overdose. Lastly, Mr. Reynolds reviewed the steps that need to take place for school district's to be able to obtain Narcan, as well as discussed possible challenges and recommendations. There was Board consensus to bring a revised Board Policy back for board consideration and approval at a future board meeting.

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

17.a Proposition 28 Update

Dr. Greg Bayless, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, gave an update on Proposition 28, passed by voters last November. Dr. Bayless explained program requirements, specifying that at least 80% of the funds must be used to employ staff for arts education and that the funds are to supplement, not supplant, existing arts education programs. Dr. Bayless noted that there are annual formula-based allocations; however, districts are allowed two years to spend each annual allocation. Dr. Bayless added that school site allocations are based on population and unduplicated counts. Lastly, he noted that the district is waiting on technical guidance from the state and that, at this time, no funds have been allocated to the district.

17.b Jumpstart Preschool Program Annual Advisory Report

Ms. Cara Dallamora, Early Childhood Education Coordinator, shared information regarding the Jumpstart Preschool Program Annual Advisory Report to the Board. Ms. Dallamora noted that the Jumpstart Program is located at seven sites, in nine classrooms, and services over 300 children. Ms. Dallamora discussed the types of internal and external assessments used, including Environment Rating Scale, Desired Result Developmental Profile, Parent Survey, and QCVC CLASS Assessment. Ms. Dallamora reviewed the Jumpstart Preschool Program Quality Improvement Plan.

At 10:15 p.m., per Board Bylaw 9323, which states that Board Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., there was Board consensus to continue the meeting until no later than 10:45 p.m.

CONFERENCE - SUPERINTENDENT

18.a Summary of California School Board Association (CSBA) Educator Workforce Housing (EWH)

Board president, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, shared that VUSD had applied and was chosen to participate in the first cohort of the Education Workforce Housing (EWH) Workshops offered through the California School Board Association (CSBA). Ms. Rodriguez shared that through these workshops, the VUSD team looked at relevant information pertaining to VUSD, such as enrollment, properties, educators, and the percentage of housing costs for our certificated and classified employees. Ms. Rodriguez noted that based on the information, a beginning teacher renting an average unit spends 86% of their income and a beginning classified employee would need 122%. The VUSD team took a look at VUSD properties, housing goals, financing, and what the next steps would be. Ms. Rodriguez noted that according to the State mandate, the City of Ventura's Regional Housing Needs Allocation (the number of units we must accommodate in the next eight years) is 5,312 units. Through the workshop process, several properties were identified as potential sites for EWH: 2647 N. Ventura Ave., 255 W. Stanley Ave., and 96 MacMillan Ave. Ms. Rodriguez noted next steps include: a Board Resolution declaring the need, a staff questionnaire, identifying partners, prioritizing a site, and deciding between a RFQ and RFP.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve consent item #'s 19-23 as presented.

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

CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

- 19.a Ventura Adult and Continuing Education's 2023-24 Course Approvals and Program Fees
- 19.b Overnight and Out of the Tri County Field Trips
- 19.c CDE Consolidated Application for Funding, Categorical Aid Programs (Part I and II), 2022-23

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

- 20.a Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 School Year(s)
- 20.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2023-24 School Year
- 20.c Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2023/24 School Year
- 20.d Ratification of Administration's Approval of Assignments for 2023 Summer School and Extended School Year Assignments

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

- 21.a Classified Position Changes

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

- 22.a Resolution #23-19, Annual Board Approval of Request to Board of Supervisors of Ventura County to Include the Voter-Approved Parcel Tax on the 2023-24 Tax Roll
- 22.b Resolution #23-24: 2023-24 Education Protection Account (EPA) Budget Allocation

- 22.c Resolution #23-25, Implementing Prequalification of Construction Contractors Utilizing Quality Bidders Questionnaire
- 22.d 2023-24 Annual Approval of Civic Center Facilities Use Rates
- 22.e Annual Request to Board for Budget and Finance Documents Destruction
- 22.f 2023-2024 Permission to Utilize Piggyback and California DGS Contracts
- 22.g The Arc of Ventura County Agreement for 2023-24
- 22.h Updated 2032-24 FNS Award of Contract
- 22.i County of Ventura Sheriff's Office MOU for 2023-24
- 22.j Ratification of Purchase Orders and Contracts
- 22.k Ratification of Check Payments
- 22.l Disposition of Obsolete and Surplus Items

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

- 23.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

None.

COMING EVENTS

Dr. Castro shared the following coming events:

- 4th of July - District Closed
- First day of school: August 23

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

No future Board Items were added.

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

Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez thanked the staff for making graduation week so wonderful. Ms. Rodriguez also shared that she was grateful to be part of such an amazing team.

CLOSED SESSION

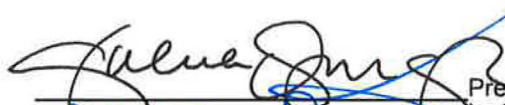
There was no need to return to closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 p.m., until the next regularly scheduled board meeting to be held on July 11, 2023.

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

APPROVED



President


Secretary

