



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 26, 2023
ADOPTED MINUTES**

Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, September 26, 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 available at

<https://www.youtube.com/@VenturaUnifiedSchoolDistrict/streams>. Those in attendance were:

Board President	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Vice President	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Board Member	Mr. Calvin Peterson
Board Member	Mr. James Forsythe
Board Member	Ms. Alicia LaVere
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 as Amended with the following change: Line Item #3 was removed from the attachment for agenda item #14.c.

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

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

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go to Closed Session

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:01 p.m.

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

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

REGULAR SESSION - Board Room - 6:00 p.m.

At 6:00 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 thanked all of the candidates who applied for the Trustee Area 3 vacancy.

Student Board Members Sienna Mody, representing El Camino High School, Rhea Gill representing Foothill High School, and Mark Gabino representing VACE, gave brief updates on the exciting things happening at their school sites.

Correspondence

12.a Ventura County Office of Education

VUSD received correspondence from the Ventura County Office of Education regarding the 2023 Adopted Budget. The letter noted that the district is experiencing significant loss of enrollment along with rising costs, and that it is imperative to reduce expenditures to align with loss of ongoing revenue.

Public Comments

The following individuals gave a public comment:

1. Alejandro Perez in support of a CWA.
2. Jeff Manson in support of a CWA.

ACTION ITEMS

14.a Request for Approval of Contracts Exceeding \$25,000 (First Reading)

Superintendent Dr. Antonio Castro noted that the Board previously approved line item #1, however, the contract increased by \$35,000, so it was brought back for re-approval. Dr. Castro also noted that on line item #2, the type should say "Staffing Services", instead of "Site Improvements."

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve as Amended contracts exceeding \$25,000 as presented, with the exception of line item #3 that was removed during agenda approval.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent items 15 to 19 as presented.

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

CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

- 16.a Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2023-24 School Year
- 16.b Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2023-24 School Year
- 16.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2023-24 School Year

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

- 18.a Consideration of Pierpont Elementary School Murals
- 18.b Donations to Ventura Unified School District and Schools
- 18.c Ratification of Purchase Orders and Contracts
- 18.d Ratification of Check Payments

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

- 19.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez shared that she attended the Midtown Community Council Meeting along with Trustee Peterson. Ms. Rodriguez also attended the SEDAC meeting and shared that there will be a new Parent Workshop on IEP Basics coming up in October. Lastly, Ms. Rodriguez attended the Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee Meeting where there was a lot of conversation around workforce housing.

Trustee James Forsythe noted that he attended the Westside Fiesta and met the new City Manager Bill Ayub. Mr. Forsythe also attended back-to-school nights at Sunset, Loma Vista, and Ventura High School.

COMING EVENTS

- Back-to-School Nights: Aug. 30 – Sept. 28
- Superintendent Listening Tour: Sept. 29 at Citrus Glen, 7:00 p.m.
- Teacher of the Month Celebration: Oct. 5, 3:00 p.m. at Juanamaria
- Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting: Oct. 6, 9 a.m.
- African American Parent Committee (AAPC) Meeting: Oct. 11, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- LCAP Advisory Committee Meeting: Oct. 18, 5:30 p.m.

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

There was Board consensus to add the following future Board items:

- Joint Use Agreements
- Historic Preservation of Washington School

The Board also requested to have possible dates for the SBM regarding the CWA by the October 10 Board meeting.

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

The Board and Superintendent congratulated new Trustee Alicia LaVere on her recent appointment.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

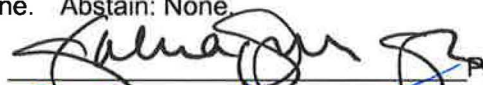
ADJOURNMENT

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 7:25 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting to be held on October 10, 2023.

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

Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None

APPROVED



President



Secretary