



CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Conejo Valley High School (CVUSD Board Room)
1402 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 5, 2025

MINUTES

1. CLOSED SESSION

A. Comments – Public

President Powell announced that there were no public comment requests submitted, and the Board convened into Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. where the following item was discussed:

B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

Closed Session ended at 5:45 p.m.

2. OPEN SESSION

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Call to Order: President Powell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Board President Lisa Powell, Board Vice President Karen Sylvester, Board Clerk Bill Gorback, Board Trustees Lauren Gill and Cindy Goldberg, and Student Board Trustee Finneas Kerns.

Administration present: Dr. Mark McLaughlin, Superintendent; Dr. Victor Hayek, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services; Kenneth Loo, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional and Student Services; and Shauna Ashmore, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

President Powell asked for attendees to remain standing after the Pledge of Allegiance for a moment of silence to honor the life and service of Westlake Hills Elementary Teacher Shelby Balsley.

C. Announcements from Closed Session and Open Session Procedures

President Powell announced that the following item was discussed in Closed Session:

B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

President Powell stated that with regard to Agenda Item 1B, there is no announcement at this time pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1, subdivision (a)(5).

D. Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Kerns made the motion to approve the agenda as submitted, seconded by Trustee Goldberg. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

E. Reports from Student Reporters

Century Academy: Harrington Gwin subbed for Celena Smith

Conejo Valley High School: Angeleen Pinn

Newbury Park High School: Darwin Rolland (absent)

Thousand Oaks High School: Kayden Studebaker

Westlake High School: Fiona Mercer

Students reported on: End of the quarter progress reports; graduating and new students; Halloween activities; spirit weeks and rallies; Unity Day, Kindness Day, National School Psychology Week, and Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations; Breast Cancer Awareness activities; Great ShakeOut earthquake drill; RISE Leadership program; TOHS/Wildwood student partnership event; Student of the Quarter recognitions; fundraisers and clothing drives; annual blood drives; senior-specific activities; freshman class elections; band, choir, and dance performances; fall sports accomplishments and highlights; and Unified Sports Unity Games.

F. Comments – Public

President Powell announced that there were four (4) public comment requests submitted, and each speaker received three (3) minutes to speak.

3. ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

A. Human Resources – Approval of Resolution #25/26-15 – Ordering of Seniority of Certificated Employees Who First Rendered Paid Service on the Same Day

Trustee Goldberg made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Sylvester. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with an abstention from Trustee Kerns.**

4. ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Trustee Sylvester made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, seconded by Trustee Goldberg. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Board of Education - Approval of Minutes**
- B. Board of Education - Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 1260 - Educational Foundation**
- C. Board of Education - Approval of Amendments to Board Bylaw 9010 - Public Statements**
- D. Human Resources - Personnel Assignment Orders**
- E. Instructional Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- F. Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract with Conejo Recreation and Park District (CRPD) for Lang Ranch Elementary**
- G. Instructional Services - Overnight Trip Request for the Dance Team at Newbury Park High School**
- H. Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract for a CEV Multimedia LLC, Site License for Westlake High School**
- I. Instructional Services - Approval of New Contract - Solution Tree, Inc. (Dr. Luis Cruz) – DEC**
- J. Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request (Watercraft Field Trip) - EARTHs Magnet School**
- K. Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract with Island Packers - EARTHs Magnet School**
- L. Student Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- M. Student Services - Approval of Renewal Contract for Inter-District Services for Hearing Conservation with the Ventura County Office of Education**
- N. Student Services - Approval of New Contract with Ventura County Office of Education/Ventura County Connected Support Consortium for the CYBHI School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grant**
- O. Business Services - Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment**
- P. Business Services - Approval of Purchase Order Report (POs exceeding \$5,000)**
- Q. Business Services - Notices of Completion**
- R. Business Services - Award of Contracts - Stadium Turf and Track Replacement Projects Under the Guidelines of California Multiple Awards Schedule (CMAS)**
- S. Business Services - Approval of Child Care Contracts**
- T. Business Services - Maintenance & Operations Department - Approval of Ad Hoc Maintenance Agreement for 2025-2026**
- U. Business Services - Approval of Facility Use Agreement with Adelante Comunidad Conejo, Inc.**

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL

A. Instructional Services - Presentation: CVUSD Valedictorian Policy Revision and Latin Honors Proposal

President Powell announced that there was one (1) public comment request, and that speaker received three (3) minutes to speak. Director of High School Education Mrs. Nicole Judd, NPHS

Principal Mr. Steve Lepire, WHS Assistant Principal of Instruction Mr. Carlos Cardenas, WHS Counselor Ms. Emily Nelson, and TOHS Teacher Ms. Tasha Beaudoin presented an overview of the proposed revisions to the CVUSD Valedictorian policy and the Latin Honors system. Their presentation covered current policies and practices, key challenges, the work and guiding principles of the committee, the proposed CVUSD Honors model, valedictorian data by school and student group, anticipated benefits of the new proposal, stakeholder input and collaboration, and the next steps in the process. The Board discussed the rationale for implementing the new honors model with the Class of 2028, inequities and pressures of the current valedictorian system, challenges for counselors and teachers, broader and more equitable recognition of high-achieving students, consideration over the use of weighted vs. unweighted GPAs, limitations in accounting for external coursework, the importance of equity and reduced competitive pressure, increased motivation for students to enroll in activity-based and career-technical education courses, and the minimal impact on college admissions.

B. Instructional Services – Discussion of Board Policy 5127 – Graduation Ceremonies and Activities

The Board discussed a proposal within the policy featuring minor Gamut updates and new CVUSD language, focusing on the implementation timeline to avoid disrupting students' academic planning, the balance between weighted and unweighted GPAs, and the fairness of Latin honors designations. Members emphasized maintaining rigor while recognizing students who take challenging coursework and ensuring consistency in recognition criteria. The Board reached consensus to move forward with the draft as presented, with additional information regarding weighted and unweighted GPAs to be included in the Board report.

C. Instructional and Student Services – Discussion of Board Policy 0500 – Accountability

Mr. Loo explained that the new policy incorporates Gamut language reflecting recent federal and state updates focused on public accountability. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

D. Board of Education – Discussion of Board Bylaw 9260 – Legal Protection

Dr. McLaughlin stated that the bylaw was updated as part of CSBA's routine review to ensure accuracy and consistency, with revisions aligning the district's 2019 Board-approved language to updated Gamut language. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

E. Human Resources – Discussion of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 4118 – Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

Mrs. Ashmore stated that the Gamut revisions to the policy and regulation establish parameters for disciplining certificated employees in cases of unprofessional conduct or unsatisfactory performance. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

F. Board Committee Reports

There were no Board Committee reports provided.

G. Comments – Board of Education

Board members provided comments.

H. Comments – Superintendent

Dr. McLaughlin stated that he had no further comments.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A. Future Board Topics / Activities

Board members did not add any topics for discussion at future Board meetings.

B. Adjournment

President Powell adjourned the Open Session at 7:58 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 5:30 p.m. – Closed Session; 6:00 p.m. - Open Session, at Conejo Valley High School in the CVUSD Board Room, 1402 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks.

December 17, 2025



Date

Board Clerk

December 17, 2025



Date

Superintendent

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwMRcdezDa6wbm8DhLrV-HQ>