



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, January 14, 2026

MINUTES

1. CLOSED SESSION

A. Comments – Public

President Sylvester announced that there were no public comment requests submitted, and the Board convened into Closed Session at 5:01 p.m. where the following items were discussed:

B. Conference with Legal Counsel, Anticipated Litigation, Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). (One Case)

C. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025060802

D. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025081073

Closed Session ended at 6:05 p.m.

2. OPEN SESSION

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Call to Order: President Sylvester called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

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

C. Announcements from Closed Session and Open Session Procedures

President Sylvester announced that the following items were discussed in Closed Session:

B. Conference with Legal Counsel, Anticipated Litigation, Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). (One Case)

No Board action was taken on this agenda item.

C. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025060802

Trustee Goldberg made the motion to approve the Settlement Agreement for Case OAH 2025060802, seconded by Trustee Gill. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

D. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025081073

Trustee Gorback made the motion to approve the Settlement Agreement for Case OAH 2025081073, seconded by Trustee Goldberg. **Motion carried: 5-0.**

D. Approval of the Agenda

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

E. Student Recognitions

The Board of Education and District staff recognized the following students for their athletic and performing arts achievements:

- **Newbury Park High School**
 - Girls Flag Football: Marmonte League Champions
- **Thousand Oaks High School**
 - Girls Volleyball: Marmonte League Champions
 - TOHS Lancer Marching Band: Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association Division 3A Champions

F. Report from Parent Organization – Gifted and Talented District Advisory Council (GATE DAC)

GATE DAC Chairperson Dr. Christine Wells highlighted monthly GATE activities, efforts to increase and retain volunteers, creative fundraising, and initiatives to strengthen student connections across elementary, middle, and high schools. She also thanked the Board for funding the GATE Teacher on Special Assignment position, which provides critical support for GATE testing and program consistency, and highlighted activities such as Noetic Math, Odyssey of the Mind, and Pi Day.

G. Comments – Public

President Sylvester announced that there were fourteen (14) public comment requests submitted, and each speaker received three (3) minutes to speak. Trustee Sylvester stated that the Technology Committee is reviewing and updating the district's technology policy, creating a new artificial intelligence (AI) policy, and that the Board will vote at this meeting to add two committee members. Updates to both policies are anticipated over the next few months.

3. ACTION ITEMS – GENERAL

A. Human Resources - Adoption of Resolution #25/26-19: National School Counseling Week - February 2-6, 2026

Trustee Powell made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Gorback. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item. **Motion carried: 5-0, with preferential “yes” vote from Trustee Kerns.**

B. Student Services - Adoption of Resolution #25/26-22: In Recognition of National Black History Month

Trustee Gill made the motion to approve, seconded by Trustee Kerns. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item. President Sylvester noted that this year's theme is “A Century of Black History Commemorations,” marking the 100th year of observing Black History Month in February. **Motion carried: 5-0, with a preferential “yes” vote from Trustee Kerns.**

C. Student Services - Adoption of Resolution #25/26-23: In Recognition of the Lunar New Year

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

D. Board of Education - Update and Consideration of School Board Member Assignments to Committees

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

E. Board of Education - Review of Bond Feasibility Survey and Consideration to Continue the Exploration of a Local Facilities General Obligation Bond Measure for November 2026

Trustee Goldberg made the motion to approve the review of the bond feasibility survey and consideration of continuing the exploration of a local facilities general obligation bond measure for November 2026 and recommend postponement of such an endeavor, seconded by Trustee Gill. After discussion and clarification with Dr. Hayek, Trustee Goldberg amended her motion to review the bond feasibility survey and consider not continuing the exploration of a local facilities general bond measure for November 2026, seconded by Trustee Gill. The Board reviewed the bond survey results and discussed the history of Measure I, noting the need for community engagement, fundraising, an independent bond oversight committee, and careful planning before pursuing a new measure. It was noted that the next opportunity for a bond measure would be November 2028, and that district readiness, funding needs, and community

support should be considered before moving forward. **Motion carried: 5-0, with a preferential “yes” vote from Trustee Kerns.**

4. ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT

Trustee Gorback made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, seconded by Trustee Powell. 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. Human Resources - Personnel Assignment Orders**
- C. Human Resources - Approval of Student Fieldwork Agreement Between the Conejo Valley Unified School District and Pepperdine University**
- D. Human Resources - Approval of Student Fieldwork Agreement Between the Conejo Valley Unified School District and Grand Canyon University**
- E. Human Resources - Approval of Student Teacher Agreement Between the Conejo Valley Unified School District and Biola University**
- F. Human Resources - Approval of Salary Schedule - Exempt Non-Classified Employees - Non-Represented**
- G. Instructional Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- H. Instructional Services - Approval of Contract Amendment #1 with Music, Memories and More - Newbury Park High School**
- I. Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract with A Rental Connection for Newbury Park High School**
- J. Instructional Services - Approval of Instructional Materials for the High School Science/International Baccalaureate Program at Newbury Park High School**
- K. Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Newbury Park High School - National Association of Broadcasters Conference**
- L. Student Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- M. Student Services - Approval of Contract for Non-Public School Placement**
- N. Student Services - Approval of New Contract with Dr. Agnesa Papazyan, PsyD Psychology Corporation, dba SoCal Psychology Center**
- O. Student Services - Approval of Amendment Number 01 to the Contract with Karen Hewig dba Ask the School Psych**
- P. Business Services - Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment**
- Q. Business Services - Approval of Purchase Order Report (POs exceeding \$5,000)**
- R. Business Services - Ratification of Purchase Order Report (POs under \$5,000)**
- S. Business Services - Acceptance of Donations/Gifts**
- T. Business Services - Approval of Transfer of Funds - December 2025**
- U. Business Services - Ratification of Warrants - December 2025**
- V. Business Services - Notices of Completion**
- W. Business Services - Change Order 1 - HVAC Replacement - Lang Ranch Elementary School**
- X. Business Services - Approval of Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**
- Y. Business Services - Approval of 2025-2026 Comprehensive Safety Plans**

Z. Business Services - Approval of Amendment No. 4 to the Agreement with Arakelian Enterprises, Inc. (dba Athens Services)

AA. Business Services - Ratification of Agreement with the California Department of Technology

BB. Business Services - Approval of Amendments to Administrative Regulation 3311.3 - Design Build Contracts

CC. Business Services - Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 3470 - Debt Issuance and Management

DD. Business Services - Approval of Amendments to Board Policy 7131 - Relations with Local Agencies

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – GENERAL

A. Instructional Services - Presentation: Update on the International Baccalaureate (IB) Continuum

Mr. Loo introduced the principals and IB coordinators from Cypress Elementary, Sequoia Middle, and Newbury Park High School, who provided an overview of the IB continuum in CVUSD, including the Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programs, and highlighted the district's unique approach, student reach, IB timeline and statistics, and learner profile attributes. They reviewed progress at each site, emphasizing accessibility for all students, teacher collaboration, subjects offered, integration of district-wide initiatives such as UDL and SEL, and community engagement, including student feedback. Key highlights included the 30th anniversary of the NPHS IB Diploma Program, Sequoia's ongoing MYP candidacy, and the upcoming Cypress PYP exhibition on April 1 showcasing student projects aligned with global themes and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Dr. McLaughlin noted that teachers at IB schools who choose not to participate in the program are supported in transferring to another school, subject to position availability. Board members commended the IB program for engaging all students, encouraging curiosity, and supporting arts and equitable practices.

B. Instructional Services - Discussion of Board Policy 5125.3 - Challenging Student Course Grade/Challenging Student Records

Mr. Loo provided background on the proposed amendments to the Administrative Regulation, explaining that extending the timeline for grade changes to 30 school days would allow teachers, staff, and parents adequate time to address and resolve grading concerns during the school year rather than over the summer. Mr. Loo responded to questions from Board members regarding teacher involvement and the timeline for grade change requests.

C. Instructional Services - Approval of New High School Core Literature Title "James" by Percival Everett

Mr. Loo provided background on the core literature approval process, noting this is the second review of the title as an information item, with additional webinar opportunities and availability for review at the District Educational Center, school offices, and local libraries. Mr. Loo stated that this item is scheduled for final approval at the February 4, 2026 Board meeting.

D. Board Committee Reports

There were no committee reports provided.

E. Comments – Board of Education

Board members provided comments.

F. Comments – Superintendent

Dr. McLaughlin provided comments.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A. Future Board Topics / Activities

Board members did not add any topics for future meetings. The Board and District staff discussed the upcoming review of draft technology and artificial intelligence policies scheduled for March 2026.

B. Adjournment

President Sylvester adjourned the Open Session at 8:39 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 5:00 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.

February 4, 2026

Date



Board Clerk

February 4, 2026

Date



Superintendent

Please note that all regular CVUSD Board Meetings are recorded for public viewing, are considered matters of Public Record, and are housed on the CVUSD website in perpetuity. The video recording of this Board meeting can be viewed on the CVUSD website on the Board of Education page under *Board Meeting Videos – Watch Meetings Live* at the following link:

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