

VAUGHN | NEXT CENTURY LEARNING CENTER

BOARD MEETING
OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4:00 p.m., Wednesday
December 10, 2025
APPROVED

Public Comment

Members of the public have the right to provide input to the Board regarding agenda & non-agenda items either before or during the meeting for Board consideration of an agenda item. The public is encouraged to raise their hand, sign in for public comment and or submit a chat request for public comment.

Please note the following:

- Speakers will be announced by an independent representative and will be allotted 3 minutes to speak.
- The board reserves the right to mute or remove a participant from the meeting if the participant unreasonably causes disruption to the meeting.

To learn more about public meeting legislation rules per Brown Act please click here.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://myvaughncharter.zoom.us/j/8469670570?pwd=Tnozb2g5MENIcTlnalN1TmJsUFh1UT09

Meeting ID: 846 967 0570

Passcode: NHMTf6

This agenda contains a brief description of each item to be considered. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action shall be taken on any item not appearing in the following agenda:

All board meeting documents may be accessed here: Documents
Call to Order

A. Establish Quorum:

Luis Cervantes	Present
David Cory	Present
Steve Holle	Present
Anthony Jackson	Present
Anahi Lara	Present
Suzanne Llamas	Present
Lucia Mier	Present
Leland Tang	Present
Gabriel Ylo	Present

Advisory Student Members (non-voting)

Jonathan Chan

Gradys Cordova

PUBLIC COMMENT

MIT teacher, Cinthia Rodriguez addressed the board regarding agenda item, B5 and her disagreement with the proposed updates.

VISA Teacher, Nicky Mohr addressed the board regarding agenda item B2 and advocated for more competitive salaries by allocating at least a 5% COLA based on the strength of the current financial status.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Board member Anthony Jackson motioned to approve the minutes as presented, board member Suzanne Llamas seconded the motion.

Yes	No	Abstain
Luis Cervantes		
David Cory		
Steve Holle		
Anahi Lara	`	
Lucia Mier		
Gabriel Ylo		

Governance (30 minutes)

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<tr><td>G1</td><td>CEO Report: The CEO will give a presentation of the school’s progress, deliverables and school enrollment numbers and attendance rates.</td><td>Informational Item</td><td>CEO Fidel Ramirez shared ADA/Enrollment updates with the board. He also shared with the board the recent community events such as the Thanksgiving baskets that were given out to the community as well as the kickoff of securing the math task force to secure those interested in this effort to future increase student achievement. He also shared the variety of student performances and the parent attendance in the opportunity to highlight students. Lastly, he shared the Critical Assistance Fund effort through GoFund with the intent of supporting families who are struggling with basic needs such as rent, utility payments amidst the critical uncertain economic times and the goal of raising $20k to go back to the community.</td></tr>
<tr><td>G2</td><td>LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Board Certification- The Board will review and approve the LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Board Certification.</td><td>Action Item</td><td>CEO, Fidel Ramirez and Operations Manager, Claudia Flores shared with the board that this is an annual checklist of the different components reviewed at the LAUSD Oversight visit. The first piece is acknowledgement of the CEO and the second is the certification from the board.

The board engaged in conversation around the privacy of the board members while providing stakeholders a viable means of communication with the board. It was shared that Vaughn issued email accounts will be created for each board member to allow for communication with board members.

Board member Steve Holle motioned to approve, board member Suzanne Llamas seconded the motion
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<td>G3</td>
<td>School Safety Plan Updates - The board will receive an update on required regulation updates to the school safety plan.</td>
<td>Action Item</td>
<td>Operations Manager, Claudia Flores shared the school safety plan updates based on new laws and regulations. The updates are specific to AB49 & SB98 related to safeguards around federal agents and immigration agents and the schools authority to protect and notify.

Board member Anthony Jackson motioned to approve the action item, board member David Cory seconded the motion
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Business (60 minutes)

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<td>B1</td>
<td>FY 2024-25 Independent Audit Report - The Board will receive an audit report of 2024-25 financial statements for review and approval.</td>
<td>Action Item</td>
<td>CFO Yolanda Griffin shared with the board that in the prior meeting an extension for the audit was requested due to the government shutdown, however, she wanted to inform the board that thankfully the extension was not needed. She then presented Derrick and Victoria from CLA to present the audit report.

Derrick and Victoria shared the key highlights of the report with the board. Derrick shared with the board that there were no audit findings or audit adjustments to report.
Victoria shared that Vaughn’s current availability to pay off short term obligations is at 2.94 where the standard is 2. In addition, the months of cash on hand is at 11 where the standard is 3-6 months. Vaughn had an overall gain of $17M (inclusive of investment funds) and a decrease in revenue of about $796k from prior year. A decrease of 1% in ADA and a decrease in expenses of about $2.6M (last years of COVID funds) with an increase of cash of $1.7M placing Vaughn in a very sound financial state.

Board member Lucia Mier motioned to approve the action item, board member David Cory seconded the motion

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<tr><td>B2</td><td>FY 2025-26 First Interim Report - The Board will act on the approval of Vaughn's 2025-26 First Interim Financial Report.</td><td>Action Item</td><td>Yolanda Griffin presented the First Interim Report with the board. This is the first financial snapshot sent to LAUSD and it shows the preliminary budget projecting a deficit of $3.2M, the approved operating budget, actuals as of 10/31 and expenses. Currently projecting a deficit of $949K largely due to depreciation.

Overall revenue did increase by about $385K, however federal grants did drop in large part to the GEAR UP grant which was lost.

Board member Anthony Jackson motioned to approve the action item, board member Gabriel Ylo

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<tr><td>B3</td><td>California College Guidance Initiative-The Board will be updated on this new initiative and partnership with California Colleges.edu that aligns with our new schoolwide college initiative.</td><td>Informational Item</td><td>Cesar Perez provided an update to the board around the California College Guidance Initiative. He informed the board that the monitor for the student information provided will be through</td></tr>
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			the California Colleges MOU. This platform will allow students to create an account and allow them to receive communication. It will also allow Vaugh to see who has submitted their info, who has applied for FAFSA and will be able to receive data and generate reports. They provide college and career planning and are accessible to students and teachers. It is 6-12 however the goal is to capitalize on it and implement K-6 as well. They will also provide professional development for teachers and counselors. For students they will provide career exploration, college and major search, CSU and UC eligibility tools, Financial Aid lessons and College and Financial Aid application integrations.
B4	**Retention Bonus –** The Board will move to approve a Retention Bonus for eligible Vaughn staff in recognition of their exceptional efforts supporting student success, maintaining school excellence, and contributing to a positive and thriving learning environment. The bonus would apply to staff who are contracted or employed for at least 184 days in a year.	Action Item	CEO, Fidel Ramirez shared with the board that this proposal was discussed with key leaders and the committees as well. CFO, Yolanda Griffin shared with the board that this would be a one time bonus and is tiered based on employee qualifications such as being contracted for at least 184 days. The bonus would be paid in two installments, the first on the Jan 10, 2026 paycheck and the second at the Jul 10, 2026 paycheck. The amounts disbursed would be $3000 for exempt employees, $1,500 for full time hourly and $1,000 for part time employees. This is a continuation bonus to reward our staff for continuing to commit to Vaughn. The board engaged in conversation to discuss the affordability of this bonus at a site level with decrease in ADA/enrollment and the sustainability of this moving forward. Yolanda Griffin explained that there were some cost savings due to employee turnover, higher budgeting for

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<td>medical benefits allowing for savings and surplus to allow for this proposal. This was shared with all site leaders. Total investment would be roughly $1.2M for a total of a little over 500 employees. This is a one time expense in contrast to a raise which would affect current and future budgets.

Board member Leland Tang motioned to approve the action item, board member Anthony Jackson seconded the motion

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Re-vote required to exclude the interested parties.

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<td>B5</td>
<td>Amendments to the Employee Handbook - The Board will review and act on the approval of amendments to the Employee Handbook.</td>
<td>Action Item</td>
<td>Board Chair, Luis Cervantes informed the board that this item would be tabled for a future board meeting.</td>
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Curriculum and Instruction (45 minutes)

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<td>C1</td>
<td>School Accountability Report Card (SARC) - The Board will review and act on the approval of updated School Accountability Report Card</td>
<td>Action Item</td>
<td>Directors of Instruction Sadie Edemann and Heather Yoshioka shared the annual SARC report. Much of this information comes from state (CALPADS) populated information taken from Vaughn’s website. Some of the datapoints are from either last year or 2 years ago and are broken down by student demographics and are inclusive of school facility status.

Board member Leland Tang motioned to approve the action item, board member Gabriel Ylo seconded the motion

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<td>C2</td>
<td>CA School Dashboard Updates - The board will receive an update on Vaughn’s performance on the most recent CA School Dashboard</td>
<td>Informational Item</td>
<td>Directors of Instruction shared the CA School Dashboard updates. The layers of accountability reflective on the Dashboard are inclusive of the LCFF, LCAP and the State and Local Indicators. The difference from standard is what is reported on in the dashboard. The board was informed of the various measurements and the ratings received based on the movement in comparison to previous years. Color indicators with red being the lowest and blue being the highest.

Reporting is broken down by subgroups</td>
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<td>inclusive of race, homeless, socioeconomically disadvantaged, SPED and others specifically for Math and ELA. The scores above/below grade level are taken and an average is calculated and that is how the positive/negative above grade level is determined.

Other areas that are also reported on included chronic absenteeism, college and career readiness, graduation rates and suspension/expulsion rates.

Overall reports demonstrate that while some growth has been noted, there is still much work and intentionality that needs to be worked on in order to see the desired growth particular to the renewal benchmarks established by LAUSD.</td>
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<td>C3</td>
<td>2026-2027 School Calendar Approval - The board will receive an overview of the calendar adoption process for 2026-27 and vote to approve a schoolwide calendar for 2026-27 school year.</td>
<td>Action Item</td>
<td>Directors of Instruction shared the school calendar that the committees and stakeholders approved on. Staff had the opportunity to present any additional draft, there were a total of 3 presented and this was the one that most stakeholders voted for.

Board member Leland Tang motioned to approve the action item, board member David Cory seconded the motion
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			Gabriel Ylo | |

Partnership and School Site Council (10 minutes)

P1	**Governance Committee Updates-** The Curriculum and Instruction, Business, and Partnership committee chairs will provide the Board an update on committee initiatives.	Informational Item	Curriculum chair, Anahi Lara shared that they discussed the forming of the math task force and generated interest. They also discussed EL's intervention effort and the next year's qualifications and reviewing assessments. Business Chair, Gabriel Ylo shared that they discussed the survey responses about the salary competitiveness of Vaughn in comparison to LAUSD. Gabriel shared that information is often not properly disseminated and therefore creates a lack of communication leading to misinterpretations. Partnership chair, David Cory shared with the board that the committee approved several field trips. They also discussed identifying non-food items as student rewards in order to remain compliant with the Federal School Lunch Program.
P2	**Student Board Member Update-** The Student Board Members will provide the Board an update of student activities.	Informational Item	Student board members shared that the career day was postponed to the Spring due to a conflict with another event. They are also looking into methods of testing motivation, students are not feeling motivated to fully engage in testing due to extended testing periods.

Board member comments/future agenda items

Adjournment: board member Steve Holle motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 pm.

Next Board Meetings: Update on National School Lunch Program and 5 year audit results

February 18, 2025

**Any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodations to attend the Board meeting may request assistance by contacting Fidel Ramirez, Chief Executive Officer at (818) 896-7461. It is recommended that assistance be requested at least 3 days prior to the meeting.*