



**Wednesday, February 18, 2026**  
**Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes**

**1. CLOSED SESSION**

**2. OPEN SESSION**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

President Sylvester called the meeting to order at 6:00 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:

**1B. 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.

**1C. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation,  
Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH  
2025070813**

**Recommended Action: Approve the Settlement  
Agreement for Case OAH 2025070813, as submitted.**

*Moved by: Cindy Goldberg*

*Seconded by: Lisa Powell*

**Motion Carried: 5-0.**

**1D. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation,  
Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case Non-  
OAH E-25/26**

**Recommended Action: Approve the Settlement  
Agreement for Case Non-OAH E-25/26, as submitted.**

*Moved by: Cindy Goldberg*

*Seconded by: Bill Gorback*

**Motion Carried: 5-0.**

**D. Approval of the Agenda**

**Recommended Action: Approve the agenda as amended,  
pulling Consent Agenda Item 4J for a separate vote.**

*Moved by: Lisa Powell*

*Seconded by: Bill Gorback*

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from  
Trustee Kerns.**

**E. Reports from Student Reporters**

**Student Board Reporters:**

Century Academy: Celena Smith

Conejo Valley High School: Angeleen Pinn

Newbury Park High School: Darwin Rowland

Thousand Oaks High School: Kayden Studebaker

Westlake High School: Fiona Mercer

Students reported on recent events and activities, including school-wide events and spirit days, kindness challenges, winter formal and prom planning, Valentine's Day activities, field trips, progress reports, fundraisers and donation drives, student leadership initiatives, high school preview nights, and ongoing partnership events with Safe Passage. Students also highlighted performing arts and athletic accomplishments, Black History Month and National School Counseling Week activities, the 100th day of school celebration, and upcoming rallies, elective fairs, and student elections, and shared enrollment updates, recent graduate accomplishments, their experience at the annual Logix Bite of Reality event, and recognition for Westlake High School's Academic Decathlon team earning second place in the county competition.

**F. Comments - Public**

President Sylvester announced that there were two (2) public comment requests submitted, and each speaker received three (3) minutes to speak.

**3. ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL**

**A. Human Resources - Approval of Grant Funded Mental Health Resolutions**

President Sylvester announced that there were nineteen (19) public comment requests submitted. Due to the number of speakers, the allotted speaking time was reduced to two (2) minutes per speaker.

Mr. Loo provided an overview of the District's implementation of the five-year Mental Health grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education. The Board and District staff then discussed the early discontinuation of the grant, ongoing legal efforts and funding uncertainties, and the measures being taken to sustain services and provide clinical supervision for internship staff using one-time grant funds, alternative funding, billing, university partnerships, and program adjustments, while continuing to meet required services. The Board and District staff also discussed statutory

timelines requiring preliminary notices to employees whose positions may be affected at the end of the school year and affirmed its commitment to supporting student mental health and pursuing additional funding sources, noting that services will continue but may be adjusted based on available resources and student needs.

President Sylvester noted that Trustee Kerns does not participate in voting on this item due to its relation to personnel matters.

**Recommended Action: Approve the reduction or discontinuation of grant funded mental health positions as identified on Resolution #25/26-28 and Resolution #25/26-29, as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Lisa Powell

*Seconded by:* Bill Gorback

**Motion Carried: 5-0.**

**B. Human Resources - Approval of Resolution #25/26-21: Layoff/Reduction of Classified Positions**

President Sylvester announced that there were three (3) public comment requests submitted, and each speaker received three (3) minutes to speak. One (1) speaker was not present.

Dr. McLaughlin provided an update clarifying that the UACT settlement addressed only the 2025–26 school year and that no salary increase was provided for the 2024-25 school year, while negotiations with CSEA and CVUSD for 2024–25 are ongoing, with the District agreeing to the proposed 0.5% increase, and that 2025–26 discussions will begin once contract language for the 2024-25 school year is finalized. He confirmed that on January 20, 2026, a 2% off-schedule increase and a paid holiday were proposed, with negotiations now focused solely on the salary schedule. Dr. McLaughlin also noted that certain positions, including a warehouse technician, paraprofessional, and confidential secretary, were removed from the layoff/reduction resolution, and that while

there are some positions (mostly vacant) on the resolution involving the Maintenance & Operations department, no reductions are expected in that area next year.

Mrs. Ashmore confirmed that CSEA was the only association to present a counteroffer for the 2024-2025 school year and that the 0.5% increase is retroactive to July 1, 2024.

President Sylvester discussed the District's fiscal realities and declining enrollment, noting that flat population growth, higher average age, and expensive housing limit new student enrollment. She also highlighted efforts to attract students through magnet and IB programs, reduce chronic absenteeism, and carefully manage staffing reductions in light of declining enrollment and the loss of one-time funds, emphasizing the Board's and district's responsibility to maintain long-term financial stability while minimizing impacts on students.

President Sylvester noted that Trustee Kerns does not participate in voting on this item due to its relation to personnel matters.

**Recommended Action: Approve the reduction in classified positions identified on Resolution #25/26-21: Layoff / Reduction of Classified Positions, as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Lauren Gill

*Seconded by:* Cindy Goldberg

**Motion Carried: 5-0.**

C. **Human Resources - Approval of Resolution #25/26-20: Reduce or Discontinue Particular Kinds of Services at the Close of the Current Year**

President Sylvester announced that there were four (4) public comment requests submitted, and each speaker received three (3) minutes to speak. One (1) speaker was not present.

Dr. McLaughlin acknowledged the challenges of considering the elimination of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)

position, noting that action could be taken tonight while ongoing adjustments might still be required. He explained that the March 15 statutory deadline complicates determining caseloads as students enter and leave the district. He also outlined alternative actions for the Board to consider, including taking action now while continuing the discussion (through a Board report), or reducing the position and later reinstating it as a newly created role.

Mrs. Ashmore stated that she had communicated with individuals on the layoff list to clarify their seniority. She also noted that, for the DHH position, if it were reduced tonight and later reinstated, the laid-off individual would have reinstatement rights, and the position would not be posted as a new vacancy.

Mr. Loo stated that the proposed staffing cuts would leave the team very lean, making it challenging to meet service minutes and manage current caseloads. He noted that the Special Education directors will work closely with DHH teachers to plan for next year, and that this staffing approach helps address rising costs in other areas of Special Education. Mr. Loo also confirmed that additional funding may be needed for paraprofessionals or other Special Education expenses, and that alternative solutions are being explored.

President Sylvester clarified that one factor is caseload, while the other is travel and consultation time, both of which affect teacher effectiveness. Dr. McLaughlin confirmed that Mr. Loo is taking these factors into consideration in his planning.

President Sylvester asked whether there was consensus on moving forward with approving the resolution as written. Dr. McLaughlin and Mr. Loo responded to questions from Board members regarding whether the Board could pull and amend the current list prior to voting, table one position on the resolution for consideration at a future Board meeting, and any reported outcomes from the School Services audit of the Special Education department and their possible impact on staffing.

President Sylvester reminded that Trustee Kerns does not participate in the vote on this item as it relates to personnel issues.

**Recommended Action: Approve the discontinuance of the particular kinds of services recognized on Resolution #25/26-20: Reduce or Discontinue Particular Kinds of Services at the Close of the Current School Year, as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Bill Gorback

*Seconded by:* Lisa Powell

**Motion Carried: 5-0.**

**D. Student Services - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-24: In Support of National Women's History Month**

President Sylvester noted that the theme for this year's resolution is "Leading Change, Women Shaping a Sustainable Future," and highlighted the importance of women's vital role in advancing environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

**Recommended Action: Adopt Annual Resolution #25/26-24: In Support of National Women's History Month, as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Bill Gorback

*Seconded by:* Lisa Powell

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

**E. Student Services - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-25: In Support of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (NDDAM)**

President Sylvester announced that there was one (1) public comment request submitted, and this speaker received three (3) minutes to speak.

Trustee Powell noted that March also marks Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month, Neurodiversity Celebration Week, and World Down Syndrome Day.

**Recommended Action: Adopt Annual Resolution #25/26-25: In Support of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (NDDAM), as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Cindy Goldberg

*Seconded by:* Bill Gorback

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

F. **Instructional Services - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-27: Read Across America Week**

There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

**Recommended Action: Adopt Annual Resolution #25/26-27: Read Across America Week, as submitted.**

*Moved by:* Cindy Goldberg

*Seconded by:* Lisa Powell

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

G. **Board of Education - CSBA Delegate Assembly Nominations**

The Board discussed their nomination selection for the 2026 CSBA Delegate Assembly elections. The Board reached consensus to vote for all four (4) nominated candidates for Subregion 11-B.

**Recommended Action: Approve the submission of the Board's voting selection of the four (4) nominated candidates for CSBA Delegate Assembly, Subregion 11-B.**

*Moved by:* Cindy Goldberg

*Seconded by:* Bill Gorback

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

#### **4. ACTION ITEMS – CONSENT**

President Sylvester announced that there was one (1) public comment request submitted, and that speaker received three (3) minutes to speak. Regarding the public comment, President Sylvester stated that the District is ensuring appropriate safeguards are in place related to billing private health insurance for mental health services provided on school campuses, and that student access to those services will not be impacted.

President Sylvester announced that approval of the Consent Agenda would begin with consideration of pulled **Consent Agenda Item 4J - Approval of New Contract Between the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) and the Conejo Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) for the Funding of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Bridge Grant.**

**Recommended Action: Approve the new contract between the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) and the Conejo Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) for the funding of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Bridge Grant**

*Moved by:* Cindy Goldberg

*Seconded by:* Lisa Powell

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

**Recommended Action: Approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda, as amended.**

*Moved by:* Bill Gorback

*Seconded by:* Lisa Powell

**Motion Carried: 5-0, with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.**

- A. **Board of Education - Approval of Minutes**
- B. **Human Resources - Personnel Assignment Orders**

- C. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Newbury Park High School - NSPA Journalism Convention**
- D. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request - Choral Spring Tour - Boston for Newbury Park High School**
- E. **Instructional Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- F. **Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract with Oaks Event Rentals for Promotions/Graduations 2026**
- G. **Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract with Darvik Productions for Newbury Park High School**
- H. **Instructional Services - Deletion of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.13 - Response to Immigration Enforcement**
- I. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Newbury Park High School Band to Folsom, CA**
- J. **Student Services - Approval of New Contract Between the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) and the Conejo Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) for the Funding of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) Bridge Grant**
- K. **Student Services - Approval of New Contract with Riverside Insights, Inc.**
- L. **Student Services - Approval of Amendment No. 01 to the Contract with The Genesis Group**
- M. **Student Services - Approval of New Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1445 - Response to Immigration Enforcement**
- N. **Student Services - Approval of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan**

- O. **Student Services - Approval of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 1340 - Access to District Records**
- P. **Student Services - Approval of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5125 - Student Records**
- Q. **Student Services - Approval of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5125.1 - Release of Directory Information**
- R. **Business Services - Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment**
- S. **Business Services - Approval of Purchase Order Report (POs exceeding \$5,000)**
- T. **Business Services - Approval of Purchase Order Report (POs under \$5,000)**
- U. **Business Services - Acceptance of Donations/Gifts**
- V. **Business Services - Approval of Transfer of Funds - January 2026**
- W. **Business Services - Ratification of Warrants - January 2026**
- X. **Business Services - Notice of Completion**
- Y. **Business Services - Change Order 1 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Newbury Park High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- Z. **Business Services - Change Order 1 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Thousand Oaks High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- AA. **Business Services - Change Order 1 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Westlake High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**

- AB. **Business Services - Change Order 2 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Westlake High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- AC. **Business Services - Maintenance & Operations Department - Approval of Ad Hoc Maintenance Agreements for 2025-2026**
- AD. **Business Services - Approval of Contract Award for School Yearbook Services**
- AE. **Business Services - City of Thousand Oaks Request for CVUSD Fee Deferral for Thousand Oaks Ranch Project (325 and 391 Hampshire Road)**
- AF. **Business Services - Annual Disclosure of Broker Compensation (AB2589)**

## **5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS - GENERAL**

The Board recessed at 8:33 p.m. and reconvened at 8:43 p.m.

- A. **Instructional and Student Services - Presentation: Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) Mid-Year Update**

Mr. Loo presented an overview of the mid-year update of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) and the Budget Overview for Parents (BOP), which included the report's purpose and requirements, budget impact after the state budget release, report on highlighted metrics, expenditures, and actions for each of the District's four (4) LCAP goals, description of report metric types, mid-year adjustments, and next steps.

Mr. Loo responded to questions from Board members regarding the current LCAP cycle , potential state changes to the LCAP template, reporting of desired outcomes for the 2026-27 school year, monitoring and reporting of mid-cycle student subgroups, and the status of the California Healthy Kids Survey.

**B. Board of Education - Discussion of Board Bylaw 9321 and Exhibits (1) and (2) - Closed Session**

Dr. McLaughlin stated that the proposed amendments include Gamut updates in five areas, incorporating SB 1445 on student board member restorative justice recommendations and AB 2715 on expanded closed session authority for safety and security matters, with corresponding language revisions in the exhibits. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

**C. Instructional Services - Discussion of Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements**

Mr. Loo stated that the proposed amendments include District language updating the Board Policy to add a 5-credit, one-semester ethnic studies course for the class of 2029–2030, with a corresponding reduction in elective credits, and noted that a revised version removing the specific year will be presented after that graduating class.

Mr. Loo confirmed in response to a Board member's question that this requirement will take effect for incoming freshmen next year.

**D. Instructional Services - Discussion of Board Policy 5141.5 - Mental Health**

President Sylvester announced that one (1) public comment request was submitted, and that speaker received three (3) minutes to speak.

Board members discussed language from 2023 Gamut updates that had been removed, specifically in the third paragraph on page 1 and a related deletion on page 2 removing the term "neurodiverse". The Board reached a consensus to add the discussed language back in. Mr. Loo responded to a Board member's questions regarding the training provided to certificated staff and a percentage of classified staff, including what the training entails, whether the district exceeds 40% of trained classified staff, and the scope of cultural competency training.

E. **Board Committee Reports**

Trustee Gill reported on the recent Technology Committee meeting, highlighting discussions on Academic Honesty, the draft AI policy, evaluating technology tools, and integrating technology into learning, as well as the district's ongoing 1:1 technology efforts, noting the differing needs of elementary and secondary students and post-COVID impacts.

Trustee Powell also shared that she attended the first Technology Committee meeting, led by Dr. Suter, which focused on teachers' perspectives on AI, age-appropriate digital citizenship, data privacy, and differing technology expectations across elementary, middle, and high school students.

F. **Comments - Board of Education**

Board members provided comments.

G. **Comments - Superintendent**

Dr. McLaughlin stated that he had no comments.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

A. **Future Board Topics / Activities**

Board members reached consensus to add the following topic for discussion at a future Board meeting:

- "Building Thinking Classrooms" Practices (TBD)

B. **Adjournment**

President Sylvester adjourned the Open Session at 9:39 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 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.

3/4/26

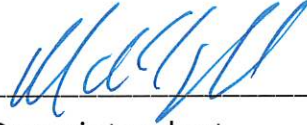
Date



Board Clerk

3/4/26

Date



Superintendent