



Wednesday, March 4, 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 6:01 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 2025070714

Recommended Action: Approve the Settlement Agreement for Case OAH 2025070714, as submitted.

Moved by: Cindy Goldberg; seconded by: Lisa Powell

Motion Carried: 5-0

D. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025080255

Recommended Action: Approve the Settlement Agreement for Case OAH 2025080255, as submitted.

Moved by: Lauren Gill; seconded by: Bill Gorback

Motion Carried: 5-0

E. Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1), Case OAH 2025090409

Recommended Action: Approve the Settlement Agreement for Case OAH 2025090409, as submitted.

Moved by: Bill Gorback; seconded by: Lisa Powell

Motion Carried: 5-0

D. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended Action: Approve the agenda as amended, pulling Consent Agenda Item 4F 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. Student Recognitions

The Board of Education and District staff honored middle and high school students for the following performing arts accomplishments:

- California All-State Honor Band, Orchestra, and Choir Selections
- All-Southern California Honor Band, Orchestra, and Choir Selections

F. Report from Parent Organization - District English Language Advisory Committee (DELAC)

Lucely Duarte, DELAC Chairperson, reported on information shared at DELAC meetings regarding several important topics, including attendance, DELAC training, ELOP, elementary reporting, immigration, Canvas for parents, the Dual Language Immersion program, the Newcomer Academy, Transitional Kindergarten (TK) registration, and Moorpark College. She noted that information from DELAC is shared with representatives at all school sites and reviewed upcoming meeting dates and times.

G. Comments - Public

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

President Sylvester requested that a public speaker forward the materials referenced in their comment to Mrs. Fehlman or directly to the Board for their review. Dr. McLaughlin

stated that the Instructional Services Department will review when the district last approved the referenced materials and whether it was reviewed by the Board to determine if adjustments to the approval process are needed.

3. ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL

A. Business Services - 2025-2026 Second Interim Financial Statements

Dr. Hayek presented an overview of the 2025-2026 Second Interim Financial Statements, which included the current budget cycle, highlights from the Governor's proposed 2026-27 budget, noting a 2.41% COLA, funding for universal meals, and a discretionary block grant, while cautioning that recent revenue growth may not be sustainable and that future multiyear deficits remain a concern. The presentation also reviewed the 2026 Second Interim estimated revenue and expenses, multiyear projections, negotiated salary adjustments, and fund balances, noting the district expects to maintain its fiscal stabilization reserve and submit a positive certification, with additional information anticipated in the Governor's May Revision and adoption of the district budget scheduled for June.

Dr. Hayek responded to questions from Board members regarding potential restrictions on the \$7 million one-time funding for 2026-27, confirmation that the negotiated salary increases for UACT, CVPPA, and CSEA are included in the numbers presented, the future need to discuss strategies for addressing the structural deficit, and the district's goal of a near-balanced budget by 2027-28, including discussion on potential impacts of upcoming state leadership and legislative changes, the district's reliance on state revenue collections, and ongoing adjustments through position evaluation and attrition.

Recommended Action: Approve the submission of the 2025-2026 Second Interim Financial Statements, as submitted.

Moved by: Lisa Powell; seconded by: Cindy Goldberg

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

B. Student Services - Adoption of Amended Annual Resolution #25/26-25: In Support of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month (NDDAM) and Disability History Month

Mr. Loo stated that the resolution for National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, originally approved at the last Board meeting, has been amended to also recognize Disability History Month and honor the valuable contributions of individuals with developmental disabilities. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

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

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 approval of the Consent Agenda would begin with consideration of pulled **Consent Agenda Item 4F - Instructional Services - Approval of Board**

Policy 5141.5 - Mental Health. Trustee Powell recommended an amendment on page 2 to change the term "neurodiverse" to "neurodivergent". The Board reached consensus to approve the policy with the recommended amendment.

Recommended Action: Adopt Board Policy 5141.5 – Mental Health, with an amendment on page 2 changing the term “neurodiverse” to “neurodivergent”.

Moved by: Lisa Powell; seconded by: Cindy Goldberg

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

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

Moved by: Cindy Goldberg; seconded by: Lisa Powell

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

- A. **Board of Education - Approval of Minutes**
- B. **Board of Education - Approval of Amendments to Board Bylaw 9321 and Exhibits (1) and (2) - Closed Session**
- C. **Human Resources - Personnel Assignment Orders**
- D. **Instructional Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- E. **Instructional Services - Approval of Board Policy 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements**
- F. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Newbury Park High School Robotics - First State Competition**
- G. **Instructional Services - Approval of Board Policy 5141.5 - Mental Health**
- H. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Newbury Park High School Robotics - First National Championships**
- I. **Instructional Services - Approval of Overnight Trip Request for Westlake High School - Academic Decathlon**
- J. **Student Services - Approval of Amendment Number 01 to the Contract with Gwendolyn Olicker**
- K. **Business Services - Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Equipment**
- L. **Business Services - Approval of Purchase Order Report (POs exceeding \$5,000)**
- M. **Business Services – Measure I and Other Sources - Notices of Completion**
- N. **Business Services - Approval of Facility Use Agreement with American Transportation Systems**
- O. **Business Services - Approval of Child Care Spring Break Contracts**

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS - GENERAL

- A. **Instructional Services - Ratification of the Redwood Middle School Proposed Bell Schedule**

Principal Keener presented information on the proposed bell schedule, including background on the current schedule, the timeline of discussions, planning, and feedback since Fall 2024, and key considerations such as instructional time, CAPS-driven approaches to support SEL and structured academic intervention and enrichment, consistency in A period minutes, alignment with the school cluster, and impacts on families. The proposal introduces a "Rise Friday" model with no new instruction to allow time for intervention, enrichment, cross-curricular opportunities, and SEL supports, with next steps including PLC collaboration, development of a staff CPT calendar, and continued communication with the community.

Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation and collaborative process, highlighting the student-centered approach, community input, potential benefits of the "Rise Friday" model, and noted the item will return for a vote at the next meeting with a review planned next year to determine continuation under the collective bargaining agreement.

B. Instructional Services - Deletion of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools

Mr. Loo provided background on the rationale for deleting this Board Policy and Administrative Regulation, noting that Program Improvement became obsolete after the repeal of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in 2015, and that current Title I requirements are now covered under Board Policy 0460 – Local Control and Accountability Plan, as well as the Uniform Complaint Procedures. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

C. Board Committee Reports

Trustee Gorback reported on the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Committee meeting, noting its first 4th-grade cadre, strong community interest, and collaboration with Colina Middle School to support the transition from elementary to middle school.

Trustee Powell reported on the Technology Committee meeting, noting plans to add more meetings this year and discussions on the Lightspeed filtering program for enhanced home controls and the technology approval process.

Trustee Goldberg reported on the Finance Committee meeting, highlighting the detailed budget review and thanking the Business Services team for their efforts.

President Sylvester reported on her attendance at the School Choice Committee meeting, noting that the district received over 1,200 intradistrict transfer requests and several hundred interdistrict transfer requests. She highlighted the requirement for all new students to submit pre-enrollment forms, the continued use of tracking codes for families to check their waitlist status, and the district's exploration of a new system to replace Q and assist with managing the School Choice process. First-round notifications will be sent to families the week of March 13, with some high school notifications already being distributed.

D. Comments - Board of Education

Board members provided comments.

E. **Comments - Superintendent**

Dr. McLaughlin reported that salary negotiations with all three bargaining groups have concluded and thanked both district and bargaining teams for their efforts.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

A. **Future Board Topics / Activities**

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

B. **Adjournment**

President Sylvester adjourned the Open Session at 7:43 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 18, 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.

3/18/26

Date



Board Clerk

3/18/26

Date



Superintendent