



Wednesday, March 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 6:01 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:

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

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

1D. Conference with Real Property Negotiators, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8. The agency negotiator is Dr. Victor P. Hayek, Deputy Superintendent. The discussion item is price and terms of payment regarding 2000 La Granada Dr.,

Thousand Oaks, California 91362. Negotiating Parties: Conejo Valley Unified School District; Kristen Walker for MATES Charter School

No Board action was taken on this agenda item.

1E. Conference with Real Property Negotiators, Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8. The agency negotiator is Dr. Victor P. Hayek, Deputy Superintendent. The discussion item is price and terms of payment regarding 1335 Calle Bouganvilla, Thousand Oaks, California 91360. Negotiating Parties: Conejo Valley Unified School District; Dr. Kelly Simon for BRIDGES Charter School

No Board action was taken on this agenda item.

D. Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Gill made the motion to approve the agenda as amended, pulling Consent Agenda Item 4C for a separate vote, seconded by Trustee Powell.

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: Carianna Fuller reported for Darwin Rowland

Thousand Oaks High School: Jade Yakel reported for Kayden Studebaker

Westlake High School: Amelie Ortiz reported for Fiona Mercer

Students reported on recent and upcoming campus activities, including ASG events; cornhole, March Madness, and teacher vs. student tournaments; spirit weeks and rallies; dances; Club "Hello Day"; ASB elections; fundraisers; cultural celebrations; senior event planning; field trips; guest speakers; and updates on campus construction and renovations. They also highlighted community service efforts such as blood drives and food, clothing, and supply drives. Academic updates included IB assessments, CAASPP testing, the Alternative Education Summit, and ongoing school year planning, along with highlights in performing arts and athletics such as performances, festivals, spring sports, and Unified Sports games and recognitions.

F. Comments - Public

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

3. ACTION ITEMS - GENERAL

A. Human Resources - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-32: Public School Volunteers Week - April 20 - 24, 2026

Board members thanked school volunteers for their work and commitment.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution #25/26-32 recognizing April 20 - 24, 2026, as Public School Volunteer Week, as submitted.

Moved by: Cindy Goldberg; seconded by: Lisa Powell

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

B. Instructional Services - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-36: Workforce Readiness Week

There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution #25/26-36 recognizing April 27, 2026, through May 1, 2026, as "Workforce Readiness Week", as submitted.

Moved by: Lisa Powell; seconded by: Lauren Gill

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

C. Student Services - Adoption of Annual Resolution #25/26-31: In Support of Arab American Heritage Month

There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Adopt Annual Resolution #25/26-31: In Support of Arab American Heritage Month, as submitted.

Moved by: Cindy Goldberg; seconded by: Bill Gorback

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

D. Human Resources - Notice of Public Hearing to Approve the Submission of the Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement (AB1200) for 2025-2026

President Sylvester convened the public hearing at 6:26 p.m. After receiving no public comment requests, President Sylvester closed the public hearing at 6:27 p.m. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

E. Human Resources - Approval of Proposed Salary Tentative Agreements with Unified Associated of Conejo Teachers (UACT) and Conejo Valley Pupil Personnel Agreement (CVPPA), and the Salary Increase for Other Non-Represented Employees for 2025-2026

President Sylvester stated that Trustee Kerns would not participate in the vote on this agenda item as it pertains to a personnel matter. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Approve the Tentative Agreements with UACT and CVPPA and the other salary increases, as submitted.

Moved by: Lisa Powell; seconded by: Cindy Goldberg

Motion Carried: 5-0.

F. Human Resources - Notice of Public Hearing to Approve the Submission of the Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement (AB1200) for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026

President Sylvester convened the public hearing at 6:28 p.m. After receiving no public comment requests, President Sylvester closed the public hearing at 6:29 p.m. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

G. **Human Resources - Approval of Proposed Salary Tentative Agreement with California School Employees Association (CSEA), Conejo Chapter #620**

President Sylvester stated that Trustee Kerns would not participate in the vote on this agenda item as it pertains to a personnel matter. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Approve the Tentative Agreement with the California School Employees Association (CSEA), Conejo Chapter #620, as submitted.

Moved by: Cindy Goldberg; seconded by: Bill Gorback

Motion Carried: 5-0.

H. **Human Resources - Approval of Salary Increases for Non-Represented Classified, Substitute Teachers, Adult Education, and Academic Specialists**

President Sylvester stated that Trustee Kerns would not participate in the vote on this agenda item as it pertains to a personnel matter. There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Approve the Salary Increases for Non-Represented Classified, Substitute Teachers, Adult Education, and Academic Specialists, as submitted.

Moved by: Bill Gorback; seconded by: Lauren Gill

Motion Carried: 5-0.

I. **Human Resources - Ratification of Future School Year Calendar: 2027-2028**

There was no Board discussion on this agenda item.

Recommended Action: Ratify the 2027-2028 school year calendar, as submitted.

Moved by: Bill Gorback; seconded by: Lisa Powell

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 4C - Instructional Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000.**

A Board member raised concerns about approving a contract listed under this agenda item - for Magic School software providing AI-powered tools for teachers and students at Newbury Park High School - and requested postponing approval until the District Technology Committee completes its evaluation of the technology framework and AI policies. Postponing would remove the Magic School contract from the approval of listed contracts under \$5,000. The Board discussed the potential postponement, noting current teacher and student use, the value of feedback from the pilot, and the importance of preparing students to use AI tools ethically and appropriately.

Mr. Loo responded to questions from Board members, confirming that teachers are already using both free trials and paid licenses of this program, which provides writing support for students, and had requested district-funded licenses. He noted that the contract timeframe aligns with the pilot period and that teachers have reported positive experiences with the program.

Recommended Action: Approve the contracts under \$5,000, as submitted.

Moved by: Lauren Gill; seconded by: Cindy Goldberg

Motion Carried: 4-1, with Trustee Gill voting "no" and with a preferential "yes" vote from Trustee Kerns.

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

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 Contracts Under \$5,000**
- D. **Instructional Services – Approval of Renewal Contract with Boys & Girls Club of Greater Conejo Valley, Inc. for June 2026**
- E. **Instructional Services – Approval of Renewal Contract with Boys & Girls Club of Greater Conejo Valley, Inc. for July 2026**
- F. **Instructional Services – Approval of Renewal Contract with Dance 4 Wellness, LLC**
- G. **Instructional Services - Approval of New Contract - Aaron J. Golub, LLC - Los Cerritos Middle School**
- H. **Instructional Services - Ratification of the Redwood Middle School Proposed Bell Schedule**
- I. **Instructional Services - Deletion of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools**
- J. **Instructional Services - Approval of Renewal Contract - Boys & Girls Club of Greater Conejo Valley, Inc. - DEC**
- K. **Instructional Services - Approval of New Contract - Walsworth Yearbooks - Sequoia Middle School**
- L. **Student Services - Approval of Contracts Under \$5,000**
- M. **Student Services - Approval of Amendment Number 01 to the Contract with Amergis Healthcare Staffing, Inc.**
- N. **Student Services - Approval of New Contract with EverDriven Technologies, LLC.**
- O. **Student Services - Approval of 2025/2026 SELPA Master Contract with Dynamic Education Services, Inc.**

- P. **Student Services - Approval of New Contract with Individualized Education Psychology, Inc.**
- Q. **Student Services - Ratification of Alternative Dispute Resolution (under \$50,000)**
- 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 - February 2026**
- W. **Business Services - Ratification of Warrants - February 2026**
- X. **Business Services – Measure I and Other Sources - Notices of Completion**
- Y. **Business Services - Change Order 2 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Thousand Oaks High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- Z. **Business Services - Change Order 3 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing- Westlake High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- AA. **Business Services - Change Order 2 - Field Turf Replacement & Track Re-Surfacing - Newbury Park High School - FieldTurf USA, Inc.**
- AB. **Business Services - Change Order 1 - Campus Modernization HVAC - Newbury Park High School - Western Allied Corp.**
- AC. **Business Services - Approval of Award of Contract for E-rate Category 2 Network Electronics Project**
- AD. **Business Services - Approval of Transportation Plan for School Year 2025-2026**

5. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS - GENERAL

- A. **Instructional and Student Services - Annual Presentation on Student Progress**
 Mr. Loo presented a multi-level snapshot of CVUSD student progress and California Dashboard College/Career Indicator (CCI) data. The presentation included 2025 Dashboard and CCI results, with actions in progress for English Language Arts and Mathematics, English Learner progress, the California Alternative Assessment for Students with Disabilities, Least Restrictive Environment, chronic absenteeism, graduation rates, A–G completion, and CCI highlights by school and student group. Next steps were also outlined, including continuing current actions, expanding pathways such as dual enrollment, and using local and district data to support ongoing student success. Additional highlights included elementary and secondary benchmarks, grade distribution (grades 4–12), Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) pass rates, mental health and wellness services, student participation in activities and athletics, annual survey results, and perspectives from students, the Student District Advisory Committee (SDAC), and staff.

Mr. Loo responded to questions from Board members regarding areas of greatest potential impact, clarification on how students met CCI requirements and participated in CTE pathways, and the anticipated effects of Science of Reading training and

Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK) on early literacy. The Board and district staff also discussed knowledge gaps at home and students pursuing alternatives to meeting A-G requirements and noted improvements in A-G completion rates with the support of A-G counselors.

B. Business Services - Presentation: Child Nutrition Services/Reorganization

Ms. Sarah Phillips, Director of Child Nutrition Services, presented updates from Child Nutrition Services, including the department's reorganization with two new assistant director positions and their respective duties, program guideline updates, meal program participation numbers, collaboration with the district communications and marketing team, and taste-testing initiatives for new menu items. She highlighted sustainability efforts, progress on 2025 goals, budget and spending overview, including a spend-down plan, updates on the new Central Kitchen, and future goals and efforts, including promoting nutrition education, enhancing the student dining experience, partnering with Ventura County Farm to School, and maintaining fiscal sustainability.

Ms. Phillips responded to questions from Board members regarding efforts to reduce wait times, potential seasonal variations in breakfast menu items, and the timeline for the spend-down plan.

C. Business Services - Approval of the 2026-2027 Child Nutrition Services School Lunch Meal and A La Carte Pricing

Dr. Hayek noted that student charges for school lunches and à la carte items are reviewed annually to determine necessary adjustments. He presented the charges for the 2025–2026 and 2026–2027 school years, highlighting some increases in à la carte pricing and the removal of items with low sales. Board members noted that pricing for secondary breakfast and lunch will decrease next year.

D. Business Services - 2026-2027 District Fee Review: Transportation Fees

Dr. Hayek noted that a 10% fee increase is being proposed for next year for student bus services due to the substantial increases in fuel and maintenance costs for buses. He responded to a Board member's question regarding whether next year's proposed increases are similar to the prior year.

E. Business Services - 2026-2027 District Facility Use Fees and Rules and Regulations

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

Dr. Hayek noted that facility fees were recalibrated several years ago to align with actual usage, with subsequent increases based on the cost-of-living adjustment. He stated that for next year, increases are limited to 2.41%, with the additional revenue directed to deferred maintenance for facility improvements.

President Sylvester noted that facility fees were reviewed several years ago to ensure consistency; initial increases were slowed following community concerns, and no further adjustments have been made. She added that she believes the prices are fair and that the modest increase is unlikely to have a significant impact.

Dr. Hayek further noted that the rules and regulations are reviewed annually, and that no changes are proposed for next year. He stated that the reservation portal for outside user groups operates on a six-month window, with reservations for July 1–December 31 opening on May 15, and reservations for January 1–June 30 opening on November 15.

F. **Business Services - Discussion of Administrative Regulation 3440 - Inventories**

Dr. Hayek stated that the proposed updates reflect changes in the law regarding how inventories are calculated and managed. He also responded to a Board member's question about whether the updates would affect current processes.

G. **Instructional Services - Discussion of Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion**

Mr. Loo reported that updates to this Board Policy (BP) and Administrative Regulation (AR) reflect new California law and align with CSBA guidance. Key changes include a BP clarifying that off-campus behavior may result in discipline, additional protections for foster and Indian/Native American students, and an AR specifying that students who voluntarily disclose substance use to seek support cannot be suspended. The AR also outlines the use of an impartial administrative panel to conduct expulsion hearings and determine whether to proceed with expulsion.

Mr. Loo responded to a Board member's question, confirming that under the previous process, expulsion hearings went directly to the Board for a decision, whereas the revised AR allows an impartial panel to conduct the hearing, with the Board making the final determination.

H. **Instructional Services - Discussion of Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities)**

Mr. Loo reported that corresponding updates were made to this Administrative Regulation (AR) in relation to Board Policy (BP) 5144.1, incorporating Gamut revisions and additional protections for students with disabilities. The revisions clarify suspension authority and limits as permitted by law, define when a suspension constitutes a change in placement, and affirm that manifestation determination safeguards apply.

Mr. Loo responded to a Board member's questions regarding whether the proposed updates will change the current process, and whether this AR sufficiently aligns with BP 5144.1, which identifies exceptions and clarifies the disciplinary process.

I. **Board Committee Reports**

Trustee Powell reported on the Health Benefits Committee meeting, noting it provided a valuable opportunity to better understand the district's self-funded plan. She stated that the committee is reviewing criteria and data to inform the contract decision for next year and expressed appreciation for Dr. Hayek and those involved in this process.

President Sylvester reported that the Coalition for Youth and Families held a resource fair on March 10 at 2:00 p.m., with strong participation from community partners and

School Resource Officers, including discussions on e-bike offenses. She stated that further debriefing will occur regarding attendance and optimal timing for future events.

President Sylvester also reported a change to Board Committee assignments, noting that Trustee Kerns volunteered to join the Technology Committee, which meets twice per month.

J. **Comments - Board of Education**

Board members provided comments.

K. **Comments - Superintendent**

Dr. McLaughlin reported that he had no comments.

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 8:36 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be Wednesday, April 15, 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.

4/15/26

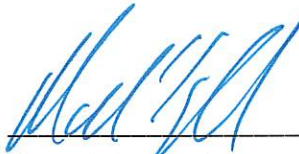
Date



Board Clerk

4/15/26

Date



Superintendent