

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
April 27, 2015**

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Moment of Reflection
The Regular Meeting of the Ventura County Board of Education, Agenda No. 15-08, was called to order by Dean Kunicki, Board President, at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, April 27, 2015, in the Board Room of the VCOE Conference & Educational Services Center, 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Kunicki, and followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call
Trustees Present:
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1
Marty Bates, Area 2
Dean Kunicki, Area 4
Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3 – *Absent*

VCOE Personnel Present:
Dr. Roger Rice, Deputy Superintendent, Student Services
Misty Key, Associate Superintendent, Fiscal & Administrative Services
Richard Urias, Director, Charter School Support and Oversight
James Koenig, Principal, Court and Community Schools

Nancy Akkerman, Executive Assistant

Dr. Rice reported that Mr. Mantooth and Dr. Chrisman are attending the CCSESA Quarterly meeting in San Francisco.

3. Approval of Agenda
Dr. Flores moved the agenda be approved. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously (4:0). Dr. Lisagor was not in attendance.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1504.
The parents of the student were in attendance. Dr. Antonio Castro, Director, Student Support Services was in attendance representing the Conejo Valley Unified School District. Mr. Bates moved the Board uphold Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 1504. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously (4:0).

D. CLOSED SESSION

None.

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 17, 2015.
Dr. Flores moved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 17, 2015 be approved. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously (4:0).

F. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

G. PRESIDENT'S AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

1. Dr. Flores reported that he took part in a CCBE Policy Platform Subcommittee conference call which resulted in a revised CCBE Policy Platform. He also attended a K-12 Education Conference meeting with Assemblymember Irwin, and a Providence Graduation. Mr. Kunicki attended the graduation as well.
2. Ms. Ulrich reported that she attended the Ventura County Woman on the Year Awards at the invitation of Assemblymember Hannah Beth Jackson. She also attended the VCSBA Dinner meeting which included a presentation by Dr. Morse.
3. Dr. Rice noted the list of Graduation Events that are upcoming. Board members are welcome to attend any and all events but were asked to RSVP to the Office.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Rice reported on the following activities of the Office:

1. Congratulatory letter from Senator Feinstein on the Ventura County Science Fair.
2. Invitation to Inspiration to VC Innovates Event.

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

1. Mr. Kunicki reported that during a recent trip to Sacramento there were conversations about the tax income receipts which were larger than anticipated, additional funding for education is being considered, as well as a 1 cent sales tax increase, bond measure for school facilities; and increased car licensing fees.

J. CONSENT/ACTION

1. Travel Expense Claim
2. Temporary County Certificates
3. Disposal of Property
4. Williams and Valenzuela CAHSEE Quarterly Report to County Board of Education
5. Board Legal Counsel Statement for Services

Mr. Bates moved that Consent Items 1-5 be approved. Dr. Flores seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously (4:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS

1. Preview of Ventura County Office of Education LCAP

Dr. Rice introduced members of the LCAP team: James Koenig; Richard Urias. The LCAP was conceived as a way for Local educational agencies to work with stakeholders to plan for increased and improved services in conjunction with the implementation of the LCFF. The LCAP is a three year plan that is reviewed annually. Tonight's presentation is a preview of the LCAP which will be presented for Public Hearing in May. This is a rough draft and a work in process. Data is still being collected and updates will continue to be made until the Public Hearing. CDE accepts and understand that some data will not be available at the time of adoption, i.e. testing results, and TBD notations will be accepted.

Extensive changes have been made to the state required LCAP template. The former template was arranged by using the Goals as the focus and including three years of activities and services in support of that goal on the same page. This year's template is arranged using the year of the plan as the organizing criteria. This new format is easier to read for the given year's goals, but makes it more difficult to track the goals, activities and services over the three years of the plan. This year's LCAP includes an annual update which lists expected and actual measurable outcomes for the current year. Changes that need to be made due to what the data has revealed can be listed and highlighted in this area. Finally, the annual update includes space for the team to estimate funding spent on each activity or service. Amounts spent so far are estimates in many cases and are not necessarily offset by reduced spending in other areas. An example – the goal was to increase CEC staffing going over to Gateway to offer courses. The estimated cost of this goal was the salary of one teacher. Instead, CEC teachers with low enrollment were assigned to teach students at Gateway. This was done without any additional expenditures.

Ms. Key reviewed the budgetary aspects of the LCAP. The LCAP was designed to identify and improve services to identified students. Last year, the costs to provide these services were estimated, and now the actual expenditures are included on the LCAP. These expenditures will continue to change as services continue to be provided. The projections are as accurate as possible. The LCAP is a portion of the VCOE budget. It is never exact but rather a system of estimates.

VCOE receives \$1.2 million for Court and Community School students. These funds are to be used to increase or improve services for these students. Last year \$1.6 million of services were identified. Restricted, Common Core, and Title I funds were used as well. \$500,000 was spent on improving Gateway facilities, and as this is considered an increased and improved service to students, the expenditure is included on the LCAP. VCOE has spent more than the required \$1.2 million, but the total amount comes from Restricted sources as well as LCFF.

It is advantageous to account for services in our LCAP. It is important to provide documentation on all services provided, i.e. career education services provided to Gateway School students. Our goal was to have 20 students participate in CEC. The actual number of students served was 56.

Ms. Key noted that the LCAP Public Hearing is tied to the Budget Public Hearing and they must be held on the same date, but prior to adoption of the final Budget. In addition, the State software for the budget is not made available until late May. To meet the timelines, two Board meetings will be held in June - June 15th for the Public Hearings on the LCAP and Budget, and June 22nd for their adoption.

Mr. Kunicki asked if the increased expenditures come from the General Fund. Ms. Key responded that they do not. Dr. Rice noted page 5, Item 7, which shows \$12,000 in funds for administration of the GED. After a time study it was determined that staff was spending twice as much time on this activity and therefore the amount noted was doubled, however, there was no corresponding increase in the cost of staff. This was just due to better knowledge of where employee time was being expended. Dr. Flores commended staff on their flexibility and identifying areas where time could be better utilized.

Upon adoption, the LCAP goes to CDE for review and approval. CCSESA has invited CDE to present additional information on what they will be looking for as part of the review process. CDE has indicated that they understand that many of the figures are estimates and that the LCAP is a work in process. CDE is looking for required outcomes and services to students.

Ms. Key noted that CDE goes through the same process that our County Office utilizes as we review the local school district LCAPs. The LCAP and the adopted budget are both reviewed and the reviewers refer to the budget to see if the expenditures are identified and if the educational agency can afford the expenditures.

Dr. Rice noted that the LCAP will now include an Annual Update where progress made on the five goals is noted. The five goals to be included are: Improving academic achievement; enhance school safety and climate; increase collaborative partnerships; coordinate services to expelled youth in Ventura County; and coordinate services to Foster Youth in Ventura County. This annual review must be included at the end of the LCAP. Staff will continue to meet and update the LCAP prior to the Public Hearing. Stakeholder input will be updated, and activities and services may be adjusted. This item was presented for information only.

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Charter School Update

Mr. Urias presented information on selected issues relative to Charter School operations throughout Ventura County. The increased funding available to charter schools could be leading to more charter school petitions. Charter School law allows independent study program charter schools to operate satellite locations in contiguous counties so long as the primary facility is located within the boundaries of the chartering agency. Los Angeles and San Diego Counties are seen as relatively unfriendly to charter schools so many are looking to Ventura County.

iLEAD Charter School began distributing flyers in Simi Valley that were cause for concern. iLEAD seemed to be offering a site-based program which would not be allowed as they are authorized by the Acton / Aqua Dulce School District in Lancaster. The charter petition states that the primary facility will be located within the boundaries of the district, and that they can operate satellite locations in contiguous counties so long as the majority of the students come from the area. iLEAD has not yet opened their primary facility.

Mr. Urias has requested information on the primary facility and the enrollment counts. When that information is received and confirmed, the office will determine whether it is legal for iLEAD to operate a satellite location within Ventura County. If iLEAD does operate a primary facility in Acton / Aqua Dulce, they could then operate a satellite facility or resource center in Ventura County with no control provided by the Ventura County Board. Mr. Urias noted that he has been in contact with Simi Valley Unified School District regarding the Office's concerns about iLEAD. He will continue to visit iLEAD and ask questions. Other charter schools may want to be chartered in Ventura County with the intention of growing into contiguous counties. If this were a concern, the MOU could stipulate that a higher percentage of students must be enrolled from the county where the charter is located.

Mr. Kunicki asked if there is anything that can keep a charter school from locating in Ventura County or an area where Vista Real Charter High School already operates. Mr. Urias noted that there would be no legal basis to block additional charter schools unless they started a school illegally. There are currently three lawsuits in the State regarding charter school locations.

Opportunities for Learning currently operates two resources centers under a charter authorized by the William S. Hart School District. They are strongly considering coming to VCBE with a request for a county-wide charter school authorization. They want to be able to operate cordially within the county. Having VCBE oversight will ensure local school districts that they are operating within academic goals. Richard Urias and Dr. Rice met with representatives from Opportunities for Learning. They want to be seen as legitimate. They seemed earnest. They are already operating here and we don't have any oversight or the right to require a MOU. It is a non-classroom, independent study program.

Vista Real Charter High School is researching options for having their students take classes at the VCOE Career Education Center (CEC), including offering core classes in ACE portables so student would have access to CEC. This could be a source of revenue for CEC and VCOE.

Another option being considered is providing Summer School courses for ACE students. As ACE and Vista Real are two separate charter schools, an updated MOU would be required between those two agencies and not VCOE.

Vista Real is experiencing growing enrollment and they would like to open a second Ventura location, closer to Highway 33, to serve students coming from Ojai area; and possibly a site in the Port Hueneme area. These additional sites would require a change to the MOU. Vista Real is planning to bring this request to the Board in May.

California Charter Authorizing Professionals (CCAP) is a group of authorizing professionals from around the State who are trying to establish a more organized and formal support network to address the needs of charter school authorizers. Currently 67% of authorizers oversee 1-2 charter schools only. A school district may not have the expertise to provide oversight. CCAP would provide assistance, would advocate for authorizers (charter schools have a lobbyist) regarding the 1% oversight fee. CCAP provides services to authorizers – not charter schools. The cost would be funded through annual dues.

This item was presented for information only.

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Ms. Ulrich noted that she will be unable to attend the June 15th Board meeting.
2. Dr. Flores reported that Dr. Lisagor was in Katmandu, Nepal during the earthquake. He is safe and well.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Staff Presentations on Departmental work (during Budget Study Sessions).
2. One to Two-day VCBE Tour of VCOE Facilities.
3. Consideration of Electronic Board Agendas and Explanatory Materials (May).
4. Tri-ennial Update of Plan for Serving Expelled Youth (May).
5. Annual Course of Study Review (May).
6. Vista Real Charter High School Revisions to MOU (May).
7. LCAP Public Hearing / Approval (June).

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: Friday, May 8, 2015 (*Budget Study Session*)
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: ***Tuesday, May 26, 2015***
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

P. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Approved by Board Action on 5/8/15.

*Board meetings are recorded by audio tape pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.5(b).
Copies of these audio tapes are available by request to this office at (805) 383-1900.*