

**VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
June 26, 2023**

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Call To Order, Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and Moment of Reflection
The Regular Board Meeting of the Ventura County Board of Education, Agenda No. 23-11, was called to order by Arleigh Kidd, Board President, at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023, in the Board Room of the VCOE Conference and Educational Services Center at 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Mr. Kidd, followed by a moment of reflection.

2. Roll Call
Trustees Present
Rachel Ulrich, Area 1
Michael Teasdale, Area 2
Dr. Mark Lisagor, Area 3
Arleigh Kidd, Area 4
Dr. Ramon Flores, Area 5

VCOE Personnel Present:
Misty Key, Deputy Superintendent, Fiscal & Administrative Services
Lisa Salas Brown, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Dr. Consuelo Hernandez Williams, Associate Superintendent, Student Services
Emily Mostovoy-Luna, Associate Superintendent, SELPA
Teri Page, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Dr. Juan Santos, Chief Human Resources Officer
Dr. Laurie Lary, Executive Director, Career Education
Christina Mahone, Director, County Program Support and Accountability
Michele Harding, Program Specialist
Lisa Bork, Sr. Executive Assistant
Aurelia Roman, Executive Assistant
John Meza, Facilities

3. Approval of Agenda
Ms. Ulrich made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5:0.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carole Shelton thanked VCOE for the opportunity for her and her family to celebrate her son Jack's graduation from Triton.

C. HEARINGS

1. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Case No. 23-18
Pleasant Valley School District

Ms. Ulrich moved the Board uphold Interdistrict Attendance Appeal # 23-18. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion and the motion carried upon a unanimous vote (5:0). The decision of the Board is final in this matter.

D. CLOSED SESSION

None

E. PRELIMINARY

1. Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of May 22, 2023
Mr. Teasdale made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of May 22, 2023. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion and it passed (5:0).
2. Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting of June 12, 2023.
Ms. Ulrich made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting of June 12, 2023. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion and it passed (4:0). Mr. Teasdale abstained.

F. CORRESPONDENCE

(Correspondence addressed specifically to the Ventura County Board of Education. Correspondence addressed to individual Board members will be delivered/mailed to them directly.)

None

G. PRESIDENT’S AND BOARD MEMBERS’ REPORTS

(Reports by Board members regarding their individual activities affecting the Office pursuant to Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2(a)).

Dr. Lisagor commented on the graduation season being the best part of his job. He was excited to see the welders and veterinary students at CEC.

Dr. Flores also acknowledged the graduations. Seeing students graduate from Providence is life changing.

Mr. Kidd attended 8 or 9 graduations. He said there is such a variety of students and programs that serve them. He is truly impressed by work being done every day by VCOE staff. He enjoyed spending time with staff, students and parents.

1. Upcoming Events
CCBE Annual Conference Sept. 8-10, 2023
CSBA Conference Nov. 30-Dec 2, 2023
2. Board Members’ Reports

H. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

(The Superintendent will report on the activities of the Office and/or other pertinent issues in education).
None

I. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

(Board Members, the Superintendent, and staff, may discuss current legislation of particular interest to the Ventura County schools.)
None

J. CONSENT/ACTION ITEMS

(All matters specified as Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be acted upon in one motion. There will be no discussion of these items prior to the time the Board votes on the motion unless members of the Board request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Agenda)

1. Temporary County Certificates
Administration recommends the Board approve 20 Temporary County Certificates issued by the County.
2. Approval of 2023-24 School Plan for Student Achievement - Gateway and Providence
The School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) is a plan of action, required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for all schools receiving Title I funds. The SPSA is developed to raise the academic performance of all students and includes proposed expenditures of funds allocated to the school through the Consolidated Application. The SPSA is updated annually and approved by the school site council prior to approval by the governing board of the local educational agency.

Ms. Ulrich made a motion to approve Consent Items J1 and J2. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion and it passed (5:0).

K. PRESENTATIONS

None

L. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION/ACTION

1. Adoption of Ventura County Office of Education Local Control Accountability Plan (VCOE LCAP)
School districts and County Offices of Education are required to develop, adopt, and annually update a three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), using a template adopted by the California State Board of Education (SBE). The LCAP identifies how districts and County Offices of Education address the State's priorities and metrics, and how expenditures are in accordance with statutes. In accordance with Education Code 52062, a Public Hearing to solicit the recommendations and comments regarding the proposed VCOE LCAP was held on June 23, 2023.

Dr. Lisagor moved to approve the Ventura County Office of Education Local Control Accountability Plan as presented. Mr. Teasdale seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

2. Adoption of the 23-24 County Schools Service Fund Budget and the Review of the Criteria and Standards for the County Schools Service Fund.
In accordance with Education Code 52062, a Public Hearing on the County Schools Service Fund Budget was held in conjunction with a Public Hearing on the VCOE LCAP on June 23, 2023.

Ms. Ulrich moved to approve the 2023-24 County Service Fund Budget as presented. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

3. Adoption of 2023-2024 Courses of Study for Court and Community Schools and Special Education
The Court and Community Schools and Special Education Programs 2023-2024 Courses

of Study were presented for the Board's review and requested adoption on May 22, 2023. Per Board Policy No. 6143, these courses of study conform to the county graduation requirements, provide students the opportunity to attain skills appropriate for entry-level employment in business and industry upon graduation from high school, and prepare students for college and career access.

The recommended materials have been available for review at the Ventura County Office of Education, Administrative Services Center, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, since May 22, 2023.

Ms. Ulrich moved to approve the 2023-24 Courses of Study for Court and Community Schools and Special Education as presented. Dr. Lisagor seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

4. Adoption of 2023-2024 Course of Study for the Career Education Center

The Ventura County Office of Education Career Education Center 2023-2024 Course of Study was presented for the Board's review and requested adoption on May 22, 2023. Per Board Policy No. 6143, these courses of study conform to the county graduation requirements, provide students the opportunity to attain skills appropriate for entry-level employment in business and industry upon graduation from high school, and prepare students for college and career access.

The recommended materials have been available for review at the Ventura County Office of Education, Administrative Services Center, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, since May 22, 2023.

Mr. Teasdale moved to approve the 2023-24 Courses of Study for the Career Education Center as presented. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

5. Adoption of Textbook for the Career Education Center Program.

A committee comprised of VCOE administrators, teachers and industry partners has recommended the textbook *Welding, Level 1, 6th Edition, 2023*.

The recommended textbook has been available for review at the Ventura County Office of Education, 5189 Verdugo Way, Camarillo, since May 22, 2023.

Dr. Lisagor moved to approve Textbook *Welding, Level 1, 6th Edition, 2023* as presented. Ms. Ulrich seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

6. Approval of Resolution 23-10, Exception to the 180-Day Wait Period

California retirement law and federal tax law provide specific employment restrictions for retirees who, without reinstating from retirement, return to work with an employer in the same public retirement system from which they receive a benefit. CalPERS retirees *who have been retired for a period of 180 days or more* can work as an employee of a CalPERS employer without reinstatement from retirement as a retired annuitant.

Retirees who do not meet the 180-day wait-period requirement can qualify for an exception if the school employer certified the appointment is necessary to fill a critically needed position and the appointment is approved by the County Board of Education. Administration recommends the Board adopt Resolution 23-10, Exception to the 180-Day Wait Period, California Government Code Sections 7522.56 & 21221(h), regarding Matthew Coyle, Conejo Valley Unified School District employee, as presented.

Dr. Lisagor moved to approve VCBE Resolution #23-10. Dr. Flores seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (5:0).

7. PreKindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Planning Grant

In accordance with EC 8320 the Local Planning Council, housed within the Ventura County Office of Education – Early Childhood Programs Department, is bringing the Universal PreKindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery Plan to the Board for consideration.

Lisa Salas Brown welcomed Alicia McFarland, Director, Early Childhood Programs; Toni Isaacs, Coordinator, UPK and Cindy Escobar, Project Specialist II. Ms. Escobar also serves as the Local Planning Council Coordinator.

Ms. McFarland mentioned the State’s investment in UPK and TK expansion is rooted in the knowledge that 90% of the brain architecture is formed by the time a child enters Kindergarten.

Ms. Isaacs said Transitional Kindergarten was first established in 2010 and has evolved to include mandates for credentialed teachers to obtain additional ECE units as well as allowed for ETK (Emergency Transitional Kindergarten) in 2015. This last school year was the start of another iteration to universalize TK and include offering TK to children who turn 4-years-old by September 1st of the 2025-26 school year.

UPK is a mixed delivery system which consists of Early Learning, Expanded Learning and Child Care and has five structures:

- A. Vision and Coherence
- B. Community Engagement and Partnerships
- C. Workforce Recruitment and Professional Learning
- D. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- E. LEA Facilities, Services and Operations

Ms. Escobar said the Local Planning Councils (LPC) are intended to serve as a forum to address childcare needs for all families. Each county across the state has an LPC. Ventura County’s LPC is housed here at VCOE. It consists of 25 members from five different categories of stakeholders. Members are appointed by the County Board of Supervisors and the Ventura County Superintendent of Schools.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 only 17 percent of all three and four-year-old children in California had access to a state PreKindergarten (PreK) program through the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) or Transitional Kindergarten (TK). This school year (22-23), over 36% of Ventura County’s 4-year-olds are being served in TK classrooms alone.

With TK expanding, there is an opportunity to increase services to 3-year-olds in existing programs. Seven percent of California's 3-year-olds are served in CSPP programming, 8% in Head Start, and 2% in special education. (*National Institute for Early Education Research, NIEER*)

California is home to approximately one million three and four-year-old children and 83% of 3-year-olds and 61% of 4-year-olds were not enrolled in public ECE Programs.

In Ventura County we have nearly doubled our services in TK to serve almost 3,400 students. This creates the capacity to serve additional 3-year-olds in CSPP, Head Start and other funded early childhood programs, which is in line with the State's vision.

Ms. McFarland clarified that California's Mixed-Delivery System intends to offer a variety of early learning and care settings to allow parents and guardians an authentic choice to meet the needs of their families.

Ms. Ulrich inquired if it is a challenge to find providers. Ms. McFarland said some programs require income eligibilities to qualify, or some families might want a family neighbor to be a provider, this system recognizes those factors.

Dr. Lisagor said this sounds similar to the Isabella Project in Santa Paula. Ms. McFarland praised the Isabella Project saying they were a step ahead of the State's curve. VCOE is partnering with them and sharing resources.

8. 2023-24 Annual Summary Report

Staff will present a report demonstrating how the Ventura County Office of Education will, per Ed Code 52066, support the continuous improvement of all county school districts and will assist each school district that is identified for technical assistance.

Lisa Salas Brown and the Department of Local District Support Services including Directors, Phoebe Moore, James Koenig and Brett Taylor addressed the Board providing information on the 2022-23 Annual Summary Report.

Ms. Brown informed the Board that this year is the return of the publicly released California Dashboard, the last release was in 2019. Data will reflect 2021-22 school year status only. There is no College and Career indicator and the status only indicators for 2022-23 include Chronic Absenteeism, Assessment, Suspension, and EL progress data. The Dashboard is the rubric of measurement of pupil achievement in statute from LCFF, which is the driver to state and federal support for local districts.

The Dashboard indicators drive eligibility for Differentiated Assistance (DA). Charter schools will now be eligible to receive DA in 2023-24.

In addressing Goal One, Mr. Koenig reported that all 19 local school districts met the statutory requirement to submit their 2022-23 Board Adopted LCAPs by July 1st. Also, all 2021-22 LCAPS were also approved by the state after VCOE's review process was completed well before the September 15 statutory deadline.

Ms. Moore said Goal Two utilizes the cycle of continuous improvement to provide technical assistance to schools and districts based on need. Technical assistance is provided to districts who are identified as needing assistance as well as those that volunteer. VCOE's LCAP Review process resulted in none of the Ventura County districts requiring support due to the LCAP not being approved.

The second part of Goal Two is providing Differentiated Assistance (DA) which has four components.

1. Assisting the school district to identify its strengths and weaknesses
2. Working collaboratively with the school district to secure assistance
3. Obtaining from the school district timely documentation
4. Partnering with California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE)

Mr. Taylor presented on Goal Three, which is providing support for continuous improvement to all districts. This work has three different lenses:

LCAP Professional Development
LCAP Office Hours
SFPD Hours (School Facilities Planning Division)

These areas are conducted in large groups, small groups and one-on-one. Topics include the LCFF, SELPA consultations, and the LCAP approval process and timelines. VCOE provides support with the LCAP development through network meetings, reviews, constant communication and collaborative professional development.

Dr. Flores asked what kind of support is provided for Differentiated Assistance. Ms. Brown said there is an email address used to connect districts (SBAS is included if there are fiscal questions). VCOE works with districts whether it is a fiscal or program question. Ms. Brown's team attends the Chief Business Officials meetings to help coordinate efforts.

Mr. Teasdale asked what type of feedback our local districts are looking for. Ms. Brown said many times district staff will come to VCOE and collaborate around a table to discuss their efforts around needs assessment and districts have access to VCOE staff for assistance.

Mr. Teasdale asked if the district has problems defining and articulating what their needs are. Mr. Koenig said it is done on a case-by-case basis. We help them formulate the wording and figure out where in the cycle they need to be. We don't give them answers, we help guide them.

Mr. Taylor said the process is very reflective of Ms. Brown's leadership which is very relationship oriented. It's like a family think tank.

Ms. Moore said the focus isn't to make decisions for them, rather to engage with our partners and use collaborative practices. We get the site leaders to come up with high priority needs assessments that addresses problems. They can move forward to formulating goals and actions and move away from the problems.

Ms. Ulrich asked if Differentiated Assistance is for all districts or just for those that fall into DA. Ms. Brown said there are different tiers. In Tier 1, all districts have the opportunity to participate. Everyone wants to be a part of this (15 of 19 districts are now eligible).

Tier 2 is specific to DA districts. A needs assessment is completed and then our team will facilitate the conversation. We have received a lot of positive feedback. The work could be around different indicators.

Ms. Ulrich asked about the budgetary needs and if we get reimbursed at the estimated cost. Ms. Brown said there are budget needs, we provide this support at no or low cost to the districts.

Ms. Key said Differentiated Assistance was added to our formula. This is the transparency aspect that we are providing services for the funded amounts.

M. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

(Government Code Section 54954.2(a) states: "No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on his or her own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.")

Mr. Teasdale commented on the impressive work by staff in providing and presenting information to the Board.

Dr. Lisagor congratulated Teri Page on her retirement.

Dr. Flores also congratulated Ms. Page on her retirement and is looking forward to working with Dr. Juan Santos, the new Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.

Mr. Kidd noted that working in Human Resources is not an easy job. Ms. Page has done it well.

N. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Board scholarships (August)
2. Board and Superintendent goals and advocacy (August)
3. Discussion on livestreaming Board meetings (August)
4. Student Board member discussion
5. Discussion on Superintendent's compensation.

O. FUTURE MEETINGS

Date: Monday, July 24, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, August 28, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Date: Monday, September 25, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: 5100 Adolfo Road, Board Room, Camarillo
Purpose: Regular Meeting of the Board

Mr. Kidd adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

P. ADJOURNMENT

Date: 08/28/2023 
Arleigh Kidd, Board President

Date: 8-29-23 
Dr. César Morales, Ex Officio Secretary and
Executive Officer of the Board