

**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, March 24, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order

The Board of Education of the Ventura Unified School District met on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 in the Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, at 5200 Valentine Road, Ventura, CA. President Sabrena Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. Public streaming of the Board meeting was made available through the Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, TDC Studios YouTube Channel.

President:	Mrs. Sabrena Rodriguez
Vice President:	Mrs. Jackie Moran
Board Member:	Mrs. Velma Lomax
Board Member:	Mr. Matt Almaraz
Board Member:	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Superintendent:	Dr. Roger Rice
Asst.Supt./Business	Mrs. Betsy George
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services:	Dr. Danielle Cortes
Asst. Supt. Certificated HR	Dr. Jeff Davis
General Counsel:	Mr. Anthony Ramos

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Dr. Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Almaraz and carried on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Public access was limited to ten individuals in the Ron Halt Community Room at the Ventura Adult Ventura Adult and Continuing Education 5200 Valentine Road, Ventura, CA 93003. Accommodations were made for social distancing. No public attended the meeting and therefore no public comments received.

Closed Session

It was moved by Mr. Almaraz, seconded by Mrs. Moran and carried on a roll call vote 5 – 0 that the Board adjourned to closed session to discuss pupil matters, conference with labor negotiators, and public performance evaluation.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

At 7:05 p.m., President Rodriguez led the pledge of allegiance, and held a moment of silence in memory of Ventura High School sophomore Austin Gambill. Austin was a member of the school's cross-country, track and field teams.

Report of Action Taken in Closed Session - None

Correspondence

Dr. Rice confirmed receipt of correspondence provided to the Board regarding item on the agenda specific to attorney fees. President Rodriguez also noted Board receipt of letter from parents regarding special education.

Board Reports

Dr. Dannenberg thanked the superintendent and entire VUSD staff for the work taking place during these demanding times.

Public Comments- None

1. **SUPERINTENDENT**

a. **Schools Closure Update**

Dr. Rice updated the Board of Education on the steps the staff has taken with school closure, distribution of food, and distance learning due to the Covid 19-Virus. He noted the collaboration of County Superintendents under the leadership of Mr. Stan Mantooth, County Superintendent, and ongoing communication with the Ventura County Public Health. Dr. Rice shared that the Board received a draft schedule of the essential staff needed to physically continue the work and those that can work remotely from home. Dr. Rice expressed appreciation to our Communication Coordinator, Ms. Marieanne Quiroz for her work in keeping the staff and community informed.

In response to trustee Dannenberg's question regarding masks. Dr. Rice confirmed that VUSD delivered to Community Memorial Hospital 3,000 N95 masks that were left over from the Thomas Fire. VUSD kept a few for the essential working employees. Dr. Rice also noted the efforts of Mr. Wulff, VUSD teacher and the STEM ambassadors (students) who are producing plastic protective facial masks.

In response to trustee Almaraz question regarding the work of the Teachers on Special Assignment (TOSA). Dr. Rice noted that during the interim of getting technology devices and broadband to students, they are preparing instructional paper packets for different grade levels, to include special education students.

Trustee Lomax expressed gratitude and appreciation to the staff, the community, and to the volunteers.

Trustee Moran, noted the valued feedback from parents during this pandemic. She shared receipt of comment from parent in regards to the paper packets and confusion as to the level of packet that students should select. Mrs. Moran also shared the names of the companies that are giving families in need free Wi-Fi.

Trustee Rodriguez, noted the emergency meeting held on March 12, 2020 where the Board discussed Governor Newsom's orders regarding COVID-19 and the decision to close all schools.

Dr. Cortes, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services shared the many steps of transitioning that are in motion regarding distance learning. These included; issuing of devices, broadband, communication with families, needs of special education students, the process for enrollment, curricula and grades. Also shared was the soft launch of distance learning for secondary, and middle school using the Edgenuity Platform, and then a launch for the elementary students using the Canvas Platform.

Dr. Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Certificated Human Resources noted all the recent changes from the Governor and legislation regarding relaxed laws and what that means for the employees. Some issues include employees on paid leave, employees with chronic health conditions, employees 65 and over who are most at risk for COVID-19. Dr. Davis is also working with both Classified and Certificated unions on employee matters.

Mrs. Betsy George, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services noted that cleaning of facilities now and prior to student and staff return will follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Mrs. George noted the appreciation for the Food and Nutrition staff who have served 30,000 meals to students per the CDC guidelines. She proposed to model other districts in the county and offer a weekly distribution instead of daily distribution to reduce the daily contact. Mrs. George also noted that Anna Campbell, Budget and Finance Director is coordinating the accessibility of hotspots to those families in dire need, and also connecting families to Wi-Fi and broadband vendors. Mrs. George noted that the Governor has been clear that districts will continue to receive funding for this year referred to as a hold harmless. However, many expenditures associated with distance learning are taking place at this time.

The hope is that these revenue expenses, due to the pandemic, will be reimbursed by the insurance and offset by potential savings in other areas such as transportation fuel.

ACTION

1. Consideration of Administrative Recommendation for Student Expulsions

It was moved by Dr. Dannenberg, seconded by Mrs. Moran and carried on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve student expulsion #s 20/17, 20/18 and 20/19.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

2. Consideration of a Revised Course – AP Statistics

It was moved by Mrs. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Lomax and carried on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the revised course; AP Statistics for a revised prerequisite Mathematics 3 or Mathematics 3 Honors with a grade of “B” or higher OR teacher recommendation OR Introduction to Data Science (IDS) with a grade of “C” or higher recommended OR parent waiver. The prerequisite is being revised to include a new math course, Introduction to Data Science and to include the words, “or parent waiver”. The type of credit is Mathematics. The course description was presented at the March 10, 2020 Board of Education meeting

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Trustee Lomax requested that a correction be made to item 15: Approval of Board meeting minutes to reflect trustee late arrival instead of absent during the opening procedure of the meetings.

Trustee Dannenberg requested to pull item 11: Cole Huber LLP for legal services for separate discussion.

It was moved by Mr. Almaraz, seconded by Dr. Dannenberg and carried on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent items 1 – 10 and 12 – 15. Item number 11 was pulled for separate consideration.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

Trustee Dannenberg requested clarification from Mr. Ramos, VUSD legal counsel as to outside legal attorney fees associated with item 11. Mr. Ramos noted that an expert specializing in water law was needed to help provide background information on water law rights. Mr. Ramos noted that this item is not covered within the Joint Power Authorities (JPA) coverage memorandum.

It was moved by Mrs. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Lomax and carried on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent item 11 with the stipulation that if the attorney fees increase, this item must be presented to the Board for consideration.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran, Rodriguez
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

1. Consideration to Revise Board Policy 5131.2 Bullying

The Educational Services recommended the revision of BP 5131.2 Bullying. This policy was updated to include the immigration status as a protected class per California law.

2. Consideration of a Revised Course – Introduction to Digital Media Arts and Communication

Course Title: Introduction to Digital Media Arts and Communication
Length of course: One year
Grade level: 9 - 12
Prerequisite: None
Current Type of Credit: Fine Arts

Revised Type of Credit: Fine or Applied Arts

Course Description: This course is an introductory study in media arts through an emphasis of two/three dimensional design and representation through film, photography and other digital media. The class is structured around completion of digital media arts applications that synthesize and demonstrate learning from the course of study, and that incorporate themes and topics explored in other fine art courses. Introduction to Digital Media Arts and Communication emphasizes the theories and elements of art and the principles of design, and their use and application in digital mediums to inform, persuade and entertain. Students will develop an appreciation for traditional and contemporary artistic expression as well as an understanding of the historical and contemporary role of video/film media as a means of communication in, and its influence upon, society and culture. Students will work individually and in collaborative groups to design, create, critique, and present two and three dimensional visual and digital media projects using technology and industry based software, including but not limited to Adobe Illustrator, Premier Pro, Photoshop, After Effects, Cinema 4D, Lightroom, Adobe Audition, and InDesign, all common in the professional world. In addition, they will develop their skills in critical thinking, problem solving, writing, analysis and presentation.

Need: Introduction to Digital Media Arts and Communication is designed to meld fine-art, design, creative thinking and problem solving together into real world production. The end goal for students is creating artwork and design that is usable and visible throughout campus and eventually within the community. This will be the introductory course to a Career Technical Education (CTE) pathway.

Assessment and Evaluation: Students are assessed by their finished designs. Assignments are broken down into: Projects, exercises, vocabulary, and mastery assessment. Students are assessed through rubrics, peer-review, teacher assessment and self-assessment.

Funding Sources: School budget

3. Consideration of a Revised Course – Advanced Digital Media Arts and Communications (DMAC)

Course Title: **Consideration of a Revised Course – Advanced Digital Media Arts and Communications (DMAC)**

Length of course: One year
Grade level: 10 - 12
Prerequisite: Introduction to Digital Media Arts and Communication
Current Type of Credit: Applied Arts

Revised Type of Credit: Fine or Applied Arts

Course Description:	This course is an advanced study in media arts with an emphasis of two/three dimensional design and representation through film, photography and other digital media. The class is structured around completion of digital media arts applications that synthesize and demonstrate learning from the course of study, and that incorporate themes and topics explored in other fine art courses. Advanced Digital Media Arts and Communications emphasizes the theories and elements of art and the principles of design, and their use and application in digital mediums to inform, persuade and entertain. Students will develop an appreciation for traditional and contemporary artistic expression as well as an understanding of the historical and contemporary role of video/film media as a means of communication in, and its influence upon, society and culture. Students will work individually and in collaborative groups to design, create, critique, and present two and three dimensional visual and digital media projects using technology and industry based software, including but not limited to Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere, Garage Band, and iMovie, all common in the professional world. In addition, they will develop their skills in critical thinking, problem solving, writing, analysis and presentation.
Need:	Advanced Digital Media Arts and Communications is designed to further meld fine-art, design, creative thinking and problem solving together into real world production. Students will continue what was started in D-MAC; creating artwork and design that is usable and visible throughout campus and within the community. D-MAC and Adv. D-MAC Is designed to allow each student to use their creativity and design knowledge to produce work that showcases these skills.
Assessment and Evaluation:	Students are assessed by their finished designs. Assignments are broken down into: Projects, exercises, vocabulary, and mastery assessment. Students are assessed through rubrics, peer-review, teacher assessment and self-assessment.
Funding Sources:	School budget

4. Consideration of a Revised Course – CTE Intro to Product Innovation and Design

Educational Services requested the revision of an existing course as follows. This course will replace Design Technology Survey (DTech), that is not aligned to industry standards and not UC A-G approved.

Current Course Title:	Design Technology Survey (DTech)
Revised Course Title:	CTE Intro to Product Innovation and Design
Length of course:	One year
Grade level:	10
Prerequisite:	Completion of 9 th grade College and Career Seminar Course
Type of Credit:	Applied Arts
Course Description:	Career Technical Education (CTE) Intro to Product Innovation and Design is a one-year introductory level college preparation course, which integrates rigorous academic standards with the pathway standards in the Manufacturing and Product Development industry sector. Students are introduced to the design process as it relates to product innovation and development. They will explore how to identify a need, develop and research creative design solutions, and make a prototype that functions to solve a real world problem or need. Students will work collaboratively and engage in all phases of the design process through hands-on, project-based learning. This course provides a Career Technical Education pathway that is in high demand within the manufacturing sector, where students will learn both the acquiring and application of essential technical skills combined with core academic knowledge such as math, critical thinking, and communication skills.
Need:	CTE Intro to Product Innovation and Design is a necessary component of the DTech pathway program at Foothill Technology High School. The students will be

engaged in hands-on activities where they will learn the basics of design thinking, entrepreneurship, and prototyping. The students will also be exposed to potential career pathways in design/STEM through expert speakers and mentorships. The DTech course is necessary to fulfill CTE pathway requirement of two courses in a pathway.

Assessment and Evaluation: Students will be assessed after each major project/unit. They will build a professional portfolio throughout the year that will be assessed several times a semester during a practical product exhibition. They will also be accountable for attendance and class participation.

Funding Sources: School budget

5. Consideration of a Revised Course – Advanced Design Studio Honors

Educational Services requested the replacement of ROP Honors Entrepreneurship currently being used with the course Advanced Design Studio Honors. Advanced Design Studio Honors is the same content, but UC A-G approved in the correct pathway.

Current Course Title: ROP Honors Entrepreneurship

Revised Course Title: Advanced Design Studio Honors

Length of course: One year

Grade level: 12

Prerequisite: DTech: Career Technical Education (CTE) Intro to Product Innovation and Design Member of the DTech Pathway or parent waiver

Type of Credit: Applied Arts

Course Description: Advanced Design Studio Honors models courses that revolve around the process of design thinking, creative inquisition, iterative modeling, critical evaluation and cyclical awareness. Students in Advanced Design Studio Honors will take on a challenge of their own formation. They will choose a project that addresses some problem which may range in scale, complexity and importance. Throughout the course students will engage with the design process, drafting and fabrication. Depending on subject and interest, students will also have the opportunity to develop their knowledge in the fields of structures, mechanisms, electronics and programming.

Need: This course is the capstone for the DTech Product Innovation and Design pathway. This course is required in order to have "completer" students in the pathway.

Assessment and Evaluation: At the finale of the course students will be required to present their work to an audience of their peers and experts. Students will need to have their completed product as well as all relevant drawings. In the presentation, students will need to articulate their position by fully detailing their proposal through the lens of the design process. Presentations will address all topics from units 1-5, specifically stating, what they did, how they did it and perhaps most importantly why they did it. Students will also need to critically assess their own level of success to provide a starting platform for additional feedback from their audience of peers and experts. The final presentation is meant to serve as a close to the year but not necessarily an abrupt conclusion to the student's work. Student should ultimately use it as a means for gathering critical thoughts to employ in future work.

Funding Sources: School budget

6. Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2019-20 School Year

Ratification of Administration's approval of Miscellaneous and Part-Time Certificated Assignments. List attached to official minutes.

7. Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel the 2019-20 School Year

Last	First	Position	Site	Lv FTE	Lv Begin	Lv End	Reason
Barnhizer	Mary	Teacher	Lincoln	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Bundy	Jennifer	Teacher	Loma Vista	0.40	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
England	Priscilla	Teacher	Poinsettia	0.60	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Fowler	Veronica	Counselor	Balboa	1.00	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Gonzales	Basilio	Counselor	DATA	1.00	5/18/20	6/5/20	Parental Leave
Hafley	Chelsea	SLP	SPED	0.40	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Higgins	Jennifer	Teacher	Poinsettia	1.00	6/1/20	6/11/20	Parental Leave
Higgins	Jennifer	Teacher	Poinsettia	1.00	8/17/20	10/23/20	Parental Leave
Huizenga	Jennifer	Teacher	Mound	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Jacobs	Robin	Teacher	Will rogers	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Klopfenstein	Layne	Teacher	Cabrillo	0.67	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Lane	Stephanie	SLP	ISPED	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Lipscomb	Collette	Teacher	Loma Vista	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
MacLeod	Lisa	Teacher	Mound	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Marr	Melissa	Teacehr	J. Serra	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
McGavren	Anne	Teacher	BHS	0.20	8/14/20	6/11/21	Child Rearing
Miyata	Heather	Teacher	VHS	0.20	8/14/20	6/11/21	Child Rearing
Nelles	Barbara	Teacher	Mound	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Nottingham	Jasmine	Teacher	Elmhurst	1.00	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Peoples	Shauna	Teacher	B. Reyn	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Rodriguez	Allyson	Teacher	B. Reyn	0.20	8/13/20	6/10/21	Child Rearing
Schneider	Sharon	Teacher	Cabrillo	0.33	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Starn	Carly	Teacher	Cabrillo	0.17	8/13/20	6/10/21	Personal
Urenda	Esmeralda	Teacher	Poinsettia	1.00	4/1/20	6/11/20	Child Rearing
Yorke	Michael	Teacher	Buena HS	1.00	5/4/20	5/22/20	Parental Leave

8. Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations & Retirements for Certificated Personnel for the 2019-20 School Year

Last Name	First	Site	Assignment	Reason	Last Work Day	Effective
Landis	Dyane	Citrus Glen	Teacher	Retirement	6/11/20	Rev 6/12/20
Johnson	Linda	Sunset LOA	Teacher	Resign-Personal	6/11/20	6/11/20

9. Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Substitute Teachers for the 2019-20 School Year

The Board of Education approved the Employment of substitute teachers listed below for the 2019-20 School Year:

Name	Credential Or Program	Ref /Date
Billings, Mary	Multiple Subject Credential	3/24/2020
Contreras, Jose L.	Emergency 30-Day Substitute Permit	3/24/2020
Ellsworth, Sarah	Multiple Subject Credential	3/24/2020
Faith, Nora	Emergency 30-Day Substitute Permit	3/24/2020

10. Employment of Adult Education Teachers

The Board of Education approved the individuals listed below for Adult Education Programs.

Last Name	First Name	Assignment	Credential	Date taken to Board
Valdez	Carla	HSD & HSE Teacher	DS AE: Elementary & Secondary Basic Skills, Social Science	3/24/2020

11. Cole Huber LLP Legal Services Agreement

The District entered into an agreement with Cole Huber LLP for legal services in groundwater adjudication.

12. Ratification of Final Settlement Agreement and Release of all Claims

Case No. AM202003

The Board of Education approved the agreement reached regarding Case No. AM202003.

13. Gifts to School District

Listed below are the donations made to Ventura Unified School District.

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>GIFT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
Liberty Arcinas	Cash	Lincoln	\$50.00
Bright Funds	Cash	Cabrillo	\$200.00
Cornerstone Photography	Cash	Pierpont	\$381.91
Edison International/YourCause, LLC	Cash	Montalvo	\$200.00
Junipero Serra PTA	Cash	Junipero Serra	\$337.33
Las Posas Children's Center	Cash	J. Serra/Will Rogers	\$500.00
Target Field Trip Grants Program	Cash	Juanamaria	\$700.00
Jenna Scarlett Van	Cash	Juanamaria	\$20.00
VUSD Retirees' Committee	Cash	Various sites	\$7,200.00

14. Ratification of Purchase Orders (February 26, 2020 – March 10, 2020)

The Board approved the following purchase orders and change orders. A list was made available by the Business Service Department.

193 Purchase Orders	=	\$2,898,442.36
PO Changes	=	9,889.85
GRAND TOTAL	=	\$2,908,332.21

15. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes were amended to reflect trustee late arrival instead of absent during the opening procedure of the meetings.

- Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2020
- Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes for February 11, 2020
- Emergency Board of Education Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2020

COMING EVENTS

Due to the pandemic, and the Governor's orders to stay at home, except for essential needs, all district activities/sports/events/meetings are cancelled at this time. The District will explore Zoom virtual platform for future meetings.

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

Trustee Dannenberg and members agreed on future presentation regarding status of fall bond.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Again, a shout-out of appreciation and acknowledgement to all district staff for going above and beyond during this COVID-19 pandemic.

CLOSED SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m. it was moved by Mrs. Lomax, seconded by Mr. Almaraz and carried on a roll call vote of 5 - 0 that the Board adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

Ayes: Dannenberg, Almaraz, Lomax, Moran
Noes: None. Absent: Rodriguez, Abstain: None.

APPROVED _____ President
_____ Secretary