



**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
November 9, 2021
MINUTES**

Call to Order

In accordance with Governor Newsom's executive orders of social distancing due to the COVID-19, the Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, as a teleconference/video conference meeting where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment via the public comments email address or live via the Zoom platform. The public streaming of the Regular Board meeting was made available through the Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, TDC Studios YouTube Channel or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87243416961>. Those in attendance were:

Board President	Ms. Velma Lomax
Board Vice President	Mr. Matt Almaraz
Board Member	Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez
Board Member	Ms. Amy Callahan
Board Member	Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Superintendent	Dr. Roger Rice
Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services	Ms. Rebecca Chandler
Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services	Dr. Antonio Castro
Asst. Supt./Human Resources	Mr. Brett Taylor
General Counsel	Mr. Anthony Ramos

Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan
Noes: None. Absent: Dr. Jerry Dannenberg*. Abstain: None.
*Trustee Dannenberg was having technical difficulties during the first two votes.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None.

Motion to go to Closed Session

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:05 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Velma Lomax, Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan
Noes: None. Absent: Dr. Jerry Dannenberg. Abstain: None.

REGULAR SESSION - Ron Halt Classroom - 7:00 p.m.

At 7:20 p.m., Vice-President Matt Almaraz called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was held in memory of Ms. Suz Montgomery, who served as a beloved instructor for VACE for over twenty years. Suz was someone who brought love and light to all of her amazing classes for the frail and elderly. She was the Mastermind behind the "Knowledge Bowl," and the star of "Schmooze with Suz." Suz will never be forgotten for her passion for social justice, crusade to elevate senior causes and a love of a good Italian meal. She will always be treasured for her "tell-it-like-it-is" attitude and the spark in her eye that signaled an adventure was about to begin.

Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

None.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Dr. Roger Rice, gave an update on several important Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) issues that will be discussed tonight. He noted that the Declining Enrollment Committee selection process is beginning and he looks forward to engaging with stakeholders in order to get a set of recommendations on how to move forward to address declining enrollment. He shared that we are in the process of designating the educational service center (ESC) as surplus. He mentioned that there will be a discussion around the possibility of adding a General Obligation Bond to the November 2022 ballot based on the Board's direction, as VUSD's Long-Range Master Plan identifies over one billion dollars worth of need. Lastly, he shared that VUSD is working hard towards moving forward with opening Atlas as a K-8 school in the fall of 2022.

Dr. Rice took a moment to address concerns that were shared during a recent Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting, along with several written public comments received today, regarding the pending vaccine mandate. He reiterated that the mandate comes from the Governor's Office and not VUSD. He shared several things that we know at this point including that the vaccine mandate will not be implemented until the term after the FDA gives full approval. He noted that there will be a rule making process which will include the opportunity for public comment at the state level. Dr. Rice clarified that in no way will students receive vaccinations at school without parent consent.

Lastly, Dr. Rice shared several pieces of *Good News* happening at VUSD. First he shared that school information nights are underway with increased choices for our families; additional information can be found at www.venturausd.org. Second, VUSD has received a grant for 1.236 million dollars to increase Broadband and Wi-Fi Connectivity Grant for our students and their families. Third, VUSD received an anonymous \$330,000 donation to support our After School Programs and Dr. Rice thanked that individual for their generosity. Fourth, Dr. Rice shared some amazing things happening with our robotics teams. He began by giving a shout out to everyone involved with the Tidal Tumble who had a recent event where over 200 students participate on 16 teams with 80 mentors and raised over \$20,000. He also noted that the Lego Robotics Team at Cabrillo has an upcoming competition on November 21 and he wished them well. Fifth, VUSD received a Democracy Partner Award for all the work that we have been doing with students to get them registered to vote and for having our sites serve as polling places. Lastly, he shared that Sa'Aliyas Ranch student farm is progressing at Pacific High School with new buildings going up that will serve as classrooms.

Student Board Members Karyme Fierros, representing Foothill Technology High School, Daniella Gallardo, representing Pacific High School, and Sophia Green, representing El Camino High School, shared brief updates on the exciting things happening at their school sites.

Correspondence

12.a Ventura County Office of Education: 2020-21 FY Unaudited Actuals

Vice-President Matt Almaraz shared two documents received from Ventura County Office of Education regarding the 2020-21 FY Unaudited Actuals. The first was a letter addressed to President Lomax regarding the approval of the Unaudited Actuals and the second document was a signed Certification for the Unaudited Actuals.

12.b Ventura County Office of Education

Dr. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, shared that we received correspondence from VCOE showing that they received our Tentative Agreements with VUEA and VESPA Bargaining units and confirming that there is room in the budget.

12.c Ventura County District Attorney's Office

Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez shared that the Board received a letter from the District Attorney's Office with a warning about violating the Brown Act. The Brown Act violation was concerning a letter that that Board sent to the City Council with concerns over a Cannabis Ordinance without first discussing it at an open public board meeting. Trustee Rodriguez noted that it was not the intention of the Board to withhold any information from the public and that moving forward the Board will make certain to proceed as outlined in the Brown Act.

Public Comments

Ms. Marieanne Quiroz, Director of Communications and Public Information Officer (PIO), gave a brief update regarding VUSD's progress to return to in person meetings. Ms. Quiroz reiterated that City Hall is currently not available to us for meetings which has caused us difficulties as City Hall was already set up with furniture, computers, cameras, microphones and the ability to live stream to the public. Ms. Quiroz shared that VUSD's Communications Team has been working with the Superintendent's Office, VACE, and the Ventura Police Department to find a space that will fit our needs, provide ample space for the public and allow for livestreaming the event. This has proven to be quite difficult as set up and tear down time would be a day each and we do not want to impede on the activities happening at the schools. In addition, the current supply chain issues has caused some of our shipments to be delayed. Ms. Quiroz noted that VUSD will be continue working diligently on returning to in person meetings.

The following people gave a public comment via email or live via Zoom*:

1. Michelle Johnston regarding the Governor's vaccine mandate.
2. Riki Stevenson regarding the recent issue concerning a teacher from Anacapa Middle School.
3. Suzette Piro regarding the mask and vaccine mandate.
4. Sarah Petty regarding the recent issue concerning a teacher from Anacapa Middle School.
5. John Graebin sharing a petition opposing the government mask and vaccine mandates.
6. Melissa Eigenhuis regarding the mask mandate.
7. Monica Gray regarding declining enrollment and the vaccine mandate.
8. Michelle Kenendy regarding the mask and vaccine mandates.
9. Annette Halpern* regarding the recent issue concerning a teacher from Anacapa Middle School.
10. John Graebin* regarding the petition he sent in signed by over 3700 individuals opposing the mask and vaccine mandates.
11. Dan Nelson* giving a shout out to the hard working teachers at Anacapa Middle School individually by name.
12. Deborah Meyer-Morris* regarding agenda item 12.c, correspondence from the Ventura County District Attorney's Office, stating that the Board needs to be more transparent; asking why the situation that occurred at Anacapa Middle School was not agendized; and sharing her concerns with the Dashboard and the learning loss that has occurred with our special education students.

ACTION ITEMS

14.a Administrative Recommendation for Student Expulsion

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve administrative recommendation for student expulsion #22-05.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax*. Abstain: None.

*President Lomax was unable to attend Regular Session.

14.b Request for Board Approval of Proposed Title Changes Only and New Numbers That Have Been Assigned to the Policies

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the proposed title changes and new numbers that have been assigned to the policies as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

14.c Request for Board Approval of New Numbers That Have Been Assigned to the Policies

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve new numbers that have been assigned to policies that are unique to Ventura Unified School District in order to be integrated onto the new codification system in GAMUT.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

14.d Request for Board Approval of Proposed Changes, Deletions or Additions to Board Policies and Administrative Regulation related to Human Resources:

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the proposed changes, deletions or additions to Board Policies and Administrative Regulation related to Human Resources as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

14.e Consideration to Delete Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 0420.1 School Based Program Coordination

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve to delete board policy and administrative regulation 0420.1, to comply with CSBA's recommendation, as this policy refers to state or federal programs/funding that no longer exists.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

14.f Request for Board Approval of a New Course - Journalism 3 Honors

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve a new course, Journalism 3 Honors, as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

15.a 2021-26 Educator Effectiveness Grant Funding Plan

Dr. Antonio Castro, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented a draft 2021-2026 Educator Effectiveness Block Grant (EEBG) Expenditure Plan. The EEBG funds were allocated based on October 2020 VUSD staffing and may be used for professional learning and to promote educator equity, quality and effectiveness. Dr. Castro presented an annual expenditure plan for the EEBG funds that will allow VUSD to extend the currently ELO and ESSER III ELO plans for additional years. Funds from this plan may be used between October 2021 to June 30, 2026. It was noted that professional development will be offered to teachers, administrators and classified staff who interact with pupils.

15.b ASB School Engagement Initiative/Student Voice

Dr. Greg Bayless, Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, shared that the new Student Advisory Committee was discussed during a recent High School Principals' Meeting. The discussion included how to involve staff members to identify groups of students who might be invited/nominated to serve, how to structure and plan the committee meetings, possible agenda items for the meetings, opportunities to seize and pitfalls to avoid. Dr. Bayless noted the Student Advisory Committee will supplement the ASB student group.

Dr. Bayless introduced ASB Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) Ms. Melanie Lindsey to give an update on ASB programs. Ms. Lindsey shared that ASB Advisors were given time and compensation in the summer for collaboration, training and alignment including a Renaissance Conference and an all Director's Meeting. All ASB Advisors also received "Envolve" Training where they learned to speak a "common language," receive a weekly challenge, know the importance of building trust, learn how to move students from comfort to growth, and learned about the Give/Ask ratio. VUSD High School ASB advisors are meeting monthly to review and troubleshoot activities, share ideas and recourses, align community service events and heritage events. Ms. Lindsey noted that the next step is to start this process with all of the Middle Schools ASB Advisors.

CONFERENCE - BUSINESS SERVICES

16.a 2021-22 First Interim Financial Report Preview Presentation

Ms. Anna Campbell, Fiscal Services Director, reviewed the 2021-22 Preliminary First Interim Budget Report which will be brought back to the December 14, 2021 Board meeting for final approval. Ms. Campbell noted that the following Grants and Plans are in progress: a new Educator Grant Award and Plan for roughly 3.5 million, a new Homeless and Foster Youth Grant Award and Plan for roughly 160k, a new Expanded Summer/Afterschool Grant Award and Plan for roughly 3.6 million and updating the ESSER III Plan with ELO and Title 1 for future years, roughly 20 million. Ms. Campbell shared projected enrollment for the 2021/22 school year (SY), the 2022/23 SY and the 2023/24 SY and noted that they are planning for reductions in the third year out.

16.b General Obligation Bond Update

Dr. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, discussed the possibility of going out for a new Bond in 2022. She noted that the last Bond VUSD passed was Measure M in 1997. Dr. Chandler shared the importance of going out for another Bond due to the over one billion dollars of facilities needs that are listed in the Master Plan. Dr. Chandler clarified that COVID money received from the state is not able to be used for any facility repairs with some exceptions such as new HVAC's since that directly affects COVID 19. The potential Bond could be added to the June or November Ballot, however VUSD's financial advisor suggests adding it to the November ballot. There was Board consensus to go out for a bond, however there was not consensus as to which ballot to add this to at this time. This discussion will continue at a future meeting.

16.c Declining Enrollment Committee Update

Dr. Rebecca Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, led a discussion regarding the Declining Enrollment Committee. She shared that 21 applications have been received and that Trustees Lomax and Almaraz are on this ad hoc committee and are working on a process for member selection. The Committee will consist of VUEA President Dan Nelson, VESPA President Carol peek, Dr. Chandler, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Antonio Castro and Director of Communications and PIO Ms. Marieanne Quiroz. Once a process has been established for selecting applicants, an organizational meeting will be scheduled for the first part of December. The committee's goals will be to review relevant data related to enrollment, staffing, budget, etc. for the purpose of developing a set of considerations/priorities/next steps in order to deal effectively with the ongoing effects of significantly declining enrollment. There was Board consensus to bring this back to a future meeting in order for the entire Board to give input on the selection process.

CONFERENCE - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

17.a Consideration of Approval of Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA)/Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) Contract Changes, Benefit Contribution and Salary Schedule Increase for the for the 2021-2022 School Year (Action Requested)

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA)/Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) contract changes, benefit contribution and salary schedule increase for the 2021-2022 school year as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

17.b Consideration of Approval of Certificated Hourly Salary Schedule Increase for the 2021-2022 School Year (Action Requested)

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the certificated hourly salary schedule increase for the 2021-22 school year as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

17.c Ventura Unified School District and Ventura Education Support Professionals Association (VESPA) Memorandum of Understanding - Health Technician Hours and Benefits 2021/22 (Action Requested)

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve the Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Education Support Professionals Association (VESPA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - Health Technician Hours and Benefits 2021/22 as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve consent calendar items # 18 through 22 as presented.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg
Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

A Board Member requested that we add the goal for each contract listed in the Purchase Orders as previously discussed during the Board's Self-Evaluation. It was decided that a follow up meeting would be scheduled with Dr. Rice, Anna Campbell, Trustee Rodriguez and Trustee Callahan to review this process and begin implementing.

CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

- 18.a Lincoln Elementary School 'Dragons Have a Heart' Mural
- 18.b Overnight and Out of the Tri-County Field Trips

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated

- 19.a Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Substitute Teachers for the 2021-22 School Year
- 19.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2021-22 School Year
- 19.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2021-22 School Year
- 19.d Ratification of Administration's Approval of Assignments Through Various Education Codes
- 19.e Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2021-22 School Year

CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified

- 20.a Classified Personnel Changes
- 20.b Classified Position Changes
- 20.c Winter Recess Leave for Classified Employees
- 20.d Revisions to Exempt Salary Schedule

CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES

- 21.a Designation of Gold Coast Joint Benefits Trust Representatives 2021-22
- 21.b Ratification of Change Orders
- 21.c Notice of Completion for C1-22 Lemon Grove Classroom Conversion

- 21.d Notice of Completion for C2-22 Lemon Grove Playground Project
- 21.e Notice of Completion for C10-21 Ventura HS Cabling Project
- 21.f Permission to Solicit Bids for Sa'aliyas Ranch Greenhouse Installation
- 21.g Ratification of Purchase Orders, Contracts, and Agreements
- 21.h Ratification of Check Payments
- 21.i Donations to Ventura Unified School District and Schools

CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT

- 22.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Amy Callahan attended the PAC meeting this past week and thought it was very well done. Ms. Callahan attended the CTE Shark Tank at Crown Plaza where students from DATA and Foothill Technology High School presented items they created to local businesses. Lastly she attended the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) conference in San Francisco where she had the opportunity to attend a kick-off event for a sister organization called the California Association of Asian & Pacific Leaders in Education (CAAPLE) and encouraged others to sign up to take part.

Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez gave a shout out to Dr. Soledad Molinar for the indigenous presentation that happened for our staff and shared that she looks forward to the African American Panel that is taking place tomorrow. Ms. Rodriguez attended the Special Education Department Advisory Committee (SEDAC) meeting where they had a presentation from Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) on several of their programs. Committee members also gave input on how we should use the one-time funds that we will be receiving. The list included having six weeks of extended school year for the 2022 summer, oral COVID tests for students with sensory issues, money to recruit and retain high quality paraeducators, creating sensory rooms and accessible playgrounds on all campuses, etc. Lastly, Ms. Rodriguez attended a statewide conference on school based healthcare centers.

Trustee Matt Almaraz noted that he attended the Title Tumble robotics event. He shared that it was a phenomenal day and he was excited to see the students enjoying themselves.

COMING EVENTS

Dr. Rice shared the following coming events:

- Teacher of the Month Celebrations:
 - November 10 at Atlas
 - November 18 at Lemon Grove
- Veteran's Day Holiday, November 11 – No School/District Closed
- Special Board Meeting, November 16 – Student Achievement/Data
- African American Parent Council Meeting, November 17 at 5:30 p.m.
- LCAP Meeting, November 18 at 8:30 a.m. or 5:30 p.m.
- Thanksgiving Holiday, November 25 & 26 – No School/District Closed
- School Information Nights: <https://www.venturausd.org>

Trustee Sabrena Rodriguez shared that Ventura High School and Buena High School will be having their musicals opening in the next few weeks. She also looks forward to the upcoming CSBA Conference in December.

FUTURE BOARD ITEMS

- Redistricting
- School Climate and Culture

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS - (No official action will be taken)

Trustee Callahan thanked all everyone for attending the Board meeting and for all they do.

Trustee Almaraz noted that we need to seek the pulse of the community and to continue to communicate with our families.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no reason to return to closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m., to the next Regular Board Meeting to be held on December 14, 2021.

Ayes: Mr. Matt Almaraz, Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg

Noes: None. Absent: Ms. Velma Lomax. Abstain: None.

APPROVED

	____ President
	____ Secretary

From: Michelle Johnston <johnston93004@ [REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 4:27 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Mandate

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

November 8, 2021

Dear Board,

First of all, I wanted to thank you for the tireless work you have put forth during the most difficult of times.

I am writing to voice my concern about the mandates given by Governor Newsom and the impact this may have on our schools. I would encourage you to be as forthcoming with information when you can because I think it will dramatically impact our enrollment. I know we have lost around 3% of our student population, but if this mandate is enforced, we will lose much more. I know many parents who will pull their child(ren) out of public education because they are adamantly opposed to this "vaccine." Parents need to have clear information as to exemptions they can use and how to go about using an exemption.

I can say with certainty that online/distance learning is NOT equivalent to in-person instruction. To segregate students in this manner based on vax and nonvax is discrimination that is not warranted. We must do all we can to provide in-person learning for all students.

Another concern that needs to be addressed is unintentional parent authorization or passive informed consent. There are rumors that WHO says that being present at school counts as informed consent for vaccination and that parental presence is not required. Please let parents know how vaccines will be offered and how consent is obtained. No parent should worry about sending their child and having their child given an injection they do not consent to.

There are many sources outside of mainstream media that have helped me to be informed or question the information I am hearing each day. Here are a few sources:

www.childrenshealthdefense.org

Physician shares Vaccine Facts/Slide Presentation: https://www.instagram.com/tv/CV0Ksn3Aof-/?utm_medium=copy_link

Eight Doctors Discuss Covid and More

<https://fb.watch/95KTnstuON/>

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Together for the students,

Michelle Johnston
VUSD teacher
Parent of former VUSD students

From: Riki Stevenson <rikijo17@ [REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 5:10 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Fwd: Anacapa conspiracy theory teacher

Hello,

It would have meant a great deal to me, personally, if I had learned about the Anacapa conspiracy theory teacher issue directly from VUSD, instead of having to hear about it in the news. Additionally, while I understand the need to not name the teacher to some degree, I also understand that when the VC star says she is “no longer working at the Ventura campus”, and your media relations people decline to say if she is still employed, it means VUSD still employs her after that unhinged rant. I’m very disappointed in VUSDs actions. VUSD has completely lost our trust and no longer gets the benefit of the doubt because parents and students were kept in the dark about this whole incident. I’m not looking for cop out excuses about collective bargaining agreements and progressive discipline policies, I want to know why VUSD purposefully hid this from parents and students, since they have known for weeks. Why did VUSD only prioritize the rights of the teacher, and not the rights of the students and parents?

When is VUSD going to reassure your other students and parents that she wasn’t just moved to another campus to directly inflict her lunacy on another set of students? Since she is still employed and VUSD completely lost our trust and gets no benefit of the doubt anymore, how is VUSD going to reassure parents and students that she isn’t in charge of any education aspect which might effect our kids, such as curriculum decisions? I don’t even know how you could reassure us in a way we would believe at this point. Since VUSD chose to hide this, we don’t even know if this was the first reported incident of this teacher, and it makes me wonder if there hadn’t been video, would VUSD have believed the kids if it was reported without this damning evidence? While I don’t think the cover up is worse than the crime here, it’s certainly just as bad.

In case any board member might think parents in VUSD did not deserve to be told about this or reassured about the possibility of future incidents, let me give a brief reminder of the insanity and conspiracy theories that were being taught to VUSD students by a STILL current employee, who might actually still be teaching at another campus or employed in any of a multitude of jobs/areas/subjects which could directly affect our children: the current president isn’t the real one, it’s Donald Trump, incestuous rape by the current presidents family, pedophilia, government controlled baby stealing and dangerous anti-vaccine conspiracy theories just to name a few. Your parents are extremely disappointed VUSD chose to hide this, as if the students and parents matter less to you than your own employees.

We are currently embarrassed to be part of this district. I literally took my kids out of private school because they can get away with teaching these kinds of lies. My son Braden, who graduated from Buena during COVID at the top of his class, was taught by a history teacher in 6th grade at Ventura Missionary School that Hitler believed in evolution, that is the only reason why he killed 6 million Jews, hence those kids shouldn’t believe in evolution either (as just one example). When I spoke to the teacher and principal about it, I was told they can teach whatever

opinion they have, it didn't matter if the facts didn't support it. Braden started Balboa the next year, just as my daughter Shea started kindergarten at Mound. Now I'm worried about my choice. Why are we allowing conspiracy theories to be taught in public schools? And why did VUSD chose to lie to their parents about it? I hope VUSD meant to send the message that they support the teacher and her rights lightyears more than the students' rights to a factual-based education and parents' rights to know what their students are being taught, because hiding this incident did exactly that.

Riki Stevenson


A very disappointed parent

[REDACTED]

From: Suzette Piro <suzettepiro@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 6:03 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Masks/ Vaccines/crt

Dear ladies and gentleman. My name is Freddie Piro and I am writing in regards to to the welfare of my child as well as the welfare of all the children and young men and woman in your schools. We need to to get the masks off them as well as stop with any kind of vaccine mandate. you have done an injustice to them for the last year and a half. i know this is coming from high levels of government and you are trying to keep things moving but that makes you as well as all of us complicit in what's going on. Masks and mandatory vaccines are not protecting anybody and I believe you know this. Its time to stand up to this medical tyranny with us parents and say no more. If you look at the stats you will see kids are not dying from covid 19. these masks are just weakening their immune system for things to come and a strong immune system is the best way to fight all of these viruses and influenzas. As far as the vaccines go if you look at stats you see how much more damage the vaccines have done that cover itself. I was trying to not also speak of crt but I heard there was possibly a pilot going on. I do not want this taught to my child and I don't believe it should be taught to any child as it is racism. if i hear of this being taught to my child li can guarantee we will will be having a much more direct conversation. their are numerous parents that stand with me on this. please stand with us together in teaching our kids the difference between right and wrong instead of being a political pawn. I have seen numerous school boards across the Country running their political agenda. I am hoping this will not be the Ventura county school district and that we can work together on this, as I have had nothing but good experiences with the Ventura school district so far other that the the ridiculous mask mandate. thank you for your time. Freddie and Suzette Piro

[REDACTED]

From: Sarah Petty <sarahppetty@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 6:29 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Teacher indoctrination of students in class room at Anacapa

Why is this teacher still employed by the district and how can you reassure me that my child won't run into her when he attends high school in Ventura next year? No child should have to face his or her adult abuser at school.

Sarah Silikula

Executive Producer | CEO
Bula Management Group & Productions
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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: John Graebin <janaway120@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 8:56 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- request for public comment - Nov 9 2021
Attachments: petition signature list.xlsx; petition status.jpg; petition.pdf

Hi,

I would like to have our petition disclosed as a public comment during the next BOE meeting this November 9 2021.

Attached are copies of our petition statement as a PDF with link to the petition website, a list of everyone who sign so far, and a snapshot of the petition website showing the status of the petition currently at 3,750 signatures.

Sincerely,
Joao Graebin

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

[REDACTED]

From: Eigenhuis 4 <barefoot4life4@ [REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 10:53 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- November 9, 2021 Public Comment for VUSD School Board Meeting

To each member of the VUSD Board, and to all the parents that have children within this district who have also have questions,

The newest side by side data out of North Dakota is showing significant difference in MANDATED masks versus mask CHOICE.

Now is the time for this school board to side on the right of choice for students who have gone over and above with these masks for an extended and unnecessary amount of time.

While we understand you are busy, we all have jobs and are expending huge amounts of time and energy educating our children, family and friends in the matter of science & health vs. scare tactics & hyper focus. Please take the time to pursue the information. links and charts found below from this month of Nov. 2021 as well as earlier in the summer.

Side by side case study in Fargo, ND

MASK MANDATE SCHOOL

vs

MASK CHOICE SCHOOL:

<https://mobile.twitter.com/tracybethhoeg/status/1457364333650845696?s=21>

Authentic click-thru links from summer article found below can be accessed at this site & are very much worth reading: <https://rationalground.com/letter-to-the-school-board/>

"I believe the data is firmly on the side of this position. The policy response to COVID—particularly as applied to children—has been wickedly inept. We now have nearly a year-and-a-half's worth of data. Not to use that data to craft better policies and create better outcomes for our children would be simply wicked.

That data tells us several key things that argue strongly against masking children. To wit (all of these claims are supported with data and links below):

Children are at extremely low risk from death, hospitalization, or other adverse events due to COVID-19. They face a 3-4x higher mortality risk from flu vs. COVID and a 10x risk of suicide.

Even with Delta, children are at extremely low risk, with some data suggesting that pediatric hospitalization rates for Delta are less than half what they were for earlier variants.

Children are NOT super-spreaders. They are not the reservoir of COVID-19 that is "prolonging the pandemic."

Multiple contact tracing studies have shown that the R0 for children is actually BELOW one, meaning it is mathematically impossible for them to drive this epidemic. They are epidemiological dead ends.

Mask mandates—especially in schools—do not reduce school or community transmission.

With these facts in hand, it becomes clear that if we are to continue masking children for COVID with vaccines universally available to the at-risk, there will be no logical point at which we can un-mask them. Even with widespread vaccination of children for COVID-19, using the arguments currently in vogue, the greater lethality of flu would counsel permanent masking to limit its spread (never mind CDC analyses showing that doing so does not limit its transmission). If we do not take this off-ramp for masking, there will be no other.

Supporting data:

Children are at extremely low risk from COVID:

As of now, there are 332 deaths of children with COVID in the U.S. This compares to about 450/year in a normal flu season—and remember, these 332 deaths occurred during TWO COVID seasons. Beyond this, the CDC has noted that 35% of these deaths could not possibly have had anything to do with COVID (e.g., they were car accidents, suicides, etc., etc.). Thus, the actual number is not possibly above 219. Of these, virtually all were extremely ill. Researchers from Johns Hopkins recently found a mortality rate of zero for children who were not extremely ill with prior conditions, like leukemia. Nor does this reflect lower spread due to our world-breaking interventions. The CDC estimates that through May, 2021, there were 27 million COVID infections in children (23 million symptomatic). Using the number of deaths where COVID might actually have been causal, this yields a maximum infection fatality rate (IFR) of 0.001% for symptomatic infection in children. This compares to around 12.5 million symptomatic flu infections in the same age group in any given year, which, with an average of 450 deaths, yields an IFR of 0.003%. Thus COVID is significantly less dangerous for children than flu—3-4x less deadly depending on the year—even without a vaccine. The risk of hospitalization is also miniscule. Again, on 23 million symptomatic infections, the CDC estimates there to have been 209,000 pediatric hospitalizations—a rate of 0.9%. The rate for flu is ~0.4%, approximately half that of COVID. However, here, too, there are caveats. A recent study found that 45% of pediatric COVID hospitalizations were in no way related to COVID. This would bring pediatric hospitalization rates for COVID in line with those for flu. There is, of course, the question of “Long COVID” in kids. Once again, there is much more heat than light here. In a recent study, researchers found no difference in long-COVID symptoms in children who had antibodies for COVID, vs. those who did not—i.e. those who were never infected. This study found the same. From all of these data, it should be clear that, at a minimum, if we are going to mask children to prevent COVID, logically we must mask them for flu as well. Is that what we want? What are the trade-offs? When it comes to children, their risk of death from suicide (under normal circumstances) is nearly 10-fold higher than their risk of death from COVID. I did not choose this statistic at random—I believe this is a potential trade-off to masks that is not being considered. The sense of isolation and alienation created by masks seems likely to aggravate this much more serious risk. If the risk of suicide were increased by masking and distancing by even 1%, it would need to be offset by a reduction in pediatric COVID deaths of at least 10%. Given the very fragile nature of the children who have died from COVID, that is extremely unlikely. Unfortunately, no concern has been given to the potential downsides of masks by public health officials, especially when it comes to children.

Delta has NOT changed the game. Children are STILL at extremely low risk from hospitalization or death from COVID.

The same applies for Delta, which, while more transmissible, appears to be less deadly, not more, for children. In the UK, where Delta has come and gone, hospitalization rates for children with Delta were nearly 50% lower. Data from the CDC shows that pediatric hospitalizations are at nearly identical levels as last year at this time, and significantly lower than winter peaks. The most recent data from HHS shows just 2 pediatric hospitalizations in Massachusetts—and a winter peak of just 20, out of a population of 1.5 million children in the state.



Children are not Super-Spreaders—Even Unvaccinated

The original rationale for masking kids was that they were super-spreaders—that while they wouldn't get sick, they might kill grandma. In fact, they are not super-spreaders. This study from the CDC found that each student infection generated an additional 0.77 infections (27 student infections yielded 21 additional infections clearly related to a student), while each teacher generated an additional 2.6 infections—3.4 times the rate of the children. This is important because it shows that children are effectively dead ends when it comes to

transmission—even unvaccinated. 0.77 is effectively the R_0 for children, meaning that they CANNOT be responsible for driving community transmission. A similar—but much larger—study of 400,000 children in Germany found that children generated just 0.25 cases for each infection, while teachers generated 1.1—4-fold more. Interestingly, the children were not masked in this study except at the end, when cases rose significantly. Children's lower transmission rates appear to protect not just them, but those around them. In Florida, where 98% of the school year was offered to students full-time and in-person, and where 20 districts were mask-optional for the full year, the case rate for children was 0.088%, per week—i.e. less than 1 child in 1000 contracted COVID/week. For Floridians not associated with schools, the weekly case rate was 2.4 times that, 0.214% ((1.66m infections – (these infections))/18.3 M non-teacher-staff, non-student population)/37weeks). To underscore the “protective effect” provided by these kids' lower transmission rates, teachers and staff in Florida schools contracted COVID at less than half the rate of other Floridians—0.11%/week (13,991 infection/~329K teachers and staff/37 weeks). Furthermore, researchers analyzing Florida, Massachusetts, and New York schools found that there was no association between school mask mandates and case rates either in the school, or the community."

Sincerely,
Melissa L. Eigenhuis

From: Monica Gray <momama08@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, November 8, 2021 11:51 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Declining enrollment and obligations unmet

Due to the scope of AB262, and what lawmakers have done to erode the public's trust, you will find your enrollment will continue to plummet. There won't be anything your committee will be able to do about it, either because parents who are learning about the dangers of sending their kids to public schools in California since SB276 and AB262 were passed. Using "implied consent" to hold on campus vaccination events and forcing vulnerable children to accept a liability free products is a crime against humanity, as many children are suffering from things like myocarditis and strokes after being given these products. VUSD needs to stop lying to parents of kids with IEPs and forcing liability free products to on them as a condition to attend, or it will have a lawsuit on its hands. Administrators at your school sites, health techs and others who have violated the rights of children with IEP's and the Civil rights of parents will also be held civilly liable, for actions that have caused harm and emotional distress to families like mine. Their refusal to acknowledge and include documentation that respects the right to medical freedom harmed my children, while they were attending Blanche Reynolds Elementary School, and DATA. When people who work on school sites or for your District make arbitrary decisions on your behalf, due to the power of estoppel, you are liable for the torts committed. If the lady in the office wants to refuse to put the personal belief exemption letter and religious exemption letter in the students file, that refusal will cost your District dearly, if it results in harm befalling a child who depended on that exemption to keep them safe from those products they have suffered injury from already. It also means that if anybody on your school sites make a decision to removes a child from the school site, to "protect public health and safety" they better understand there will be parents like me, ready to do whatever it takes to secure the freedom, health and safety of their child and protect them from imminent danger. That danger coming the form of the products you insist they need, in order to receive a free and appropriate public education, is why so many of them have chosen not to leave their children in your care and custody during the school day. "In parens patriae," where the State assumes responsibility for your child like a third parent, is no good in times like these, when the State and it's Governor are committing crimes against humanity for profit motives.

Students with an IEP are exempt from vaccine requirements at "checkpoints" like the seventh grade, and your District and it's employees would do well to know that and respect the rights of students who may have already suffered previous injury from vaccines, and would be harmed by complying. My children have suffered adverse reactions from vaccines and Sienna made comment to your Board previously about the experience. When a parent requests an IEP, you have to respond to the request, and the one I made for Sienna at the end of her sixth grade year was not acted upon by counselors at DATA, and her educational rights were violated as a result. The request made via a computer in the office, specifically to speak to a school counselor about the need for an IEP meeting. I do believe this calls for a due process hearing, and look forward to hearing from someone about when that may be convened soon.

The Declining Enrollment Committee should read up on AB262 and ask yourselves why parents don't want their kids to be exposed to all the harm that public schools are doing in the time of COVID. Would you appreciate it if your kid was removed from campus and taken offsite by Public Health, because they are suspected of having COVID? The site in Ojai that my nurse friend worked at sounds scary, and I know a lot of parents who would not be ok with that happening to their child.

Public school is not a safe place for kids anymore, and VUSD has not made it a safe, inviting or positive learning experience for my children while enrolled. The actions it has taken and the policies it has adopted make me bereft, for there is no way back from what has already occurred.

- Monica Gray

[REDACTED]

From: Michelle Kennedy <mjmkennedy99@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 10:44 AM
To: Public Comment
Subject: -EXTERNAL SENDER- Mask and vaccine mandates

November 9, 2021
10:00am Pacific

Dear Board,

May I introduce myself please. My name is Michelle Kennedy. a resident of Ventura City and a mother of two children. My daughter is a senior this year and my son graduated last year. Thank you for taking a moment of your time to read my email as I know all of us are busy and life is hectic and problematic.

I am writing on behalf of my own daughter and also on behalf of all aged children and their parents. Please understand my email is written from a place of extreme concern and not anger at you (whomever is reading this). I encourage the Board to take every concern very seriously and not turn a blind eye for the consequences of doing so will be huge.

I know that you have been inundated with emails, letters and calls from parents all over who are angry and very disappointed with the school system and the disastrous decisions being made against the parent's wishes. I am beyond bewildered that these voices and parental rights are being ignored and ran over by a Governor who doesn't even obey his own rules (fact). The only decision maker in a child's life are and always will be their parents, not a Governor, not a doctor, certainly not a School Board. If these people want to make decisions for our children then they will also have to be responsible for the consequences of every decision made. As you may or may not be aware, this vaccine has had the most horrific results of all vaccines EVER according to VAERS website. In my personal circle alone, so first hand witnessing, here is a list:

- my daughter's best friend had one dose at 18 and went into the hospital with heart problems for 3 weeks, did not get the second dose
- my mother's best friend's 35 yr. old daughter in law had a massive stroke after vaccination
- my best friend's husband contracted Covid after vaccination
- my brother in law's mother had an extreme reaction after vaccine, then contracted Covid badly
- my other friends brother was in remission from cancer, got the vaccine, cancer came back and he was dead 5 months later
- my friend's friend at church dropped dead of a heart attack a week after vaccination

The only common denominator is the vaccine. That cannot be ignored. We know and you know (if you are willing to be transparent) that administering this shot to children 5-11 will have the worst consequences! Any age is vulnerable and should only be the parent's choice and therefore the parent's responsibility.

I greatly urge you to **DO WHAT IS RIGHT**, What is happening is **WRONG**. Doing what is right will always bring blessing, doing wrong will bring consequences.

I will never take this vaccine nor will my children because it certainly has not been tested thoroughly or peer reviewed and for that matter neither has mask effectiveness. The survival rate of Covid is 99%.

According to Sabrena Rodriguez in a response to a friend of mine, she stated, " I am very hopeful that the governor will back off the mandate since our numbers are trending solidly in a good direction." With that in mind **masks mandates should be removed forever and vaccines should be a choice.**

I appreciate you lending your eyes to this email. I encourage you and whomever else to have a meeting and really dive deep into what you, the Governor, and the state of CA are trying to implement that is simply wrong.

Here are a couple of resources that support my thoughts and are honestly hidden from most mainstream media sources because they tell the TRUTH.

www.childrenshealthdefense.org

Physician shares Vaccine Facts/Slide Presentation: https://www.instagram.com/tv/CV0Ksn3Aof-/?utm_medium=copy_link

Eight Doctors Discuss Covid and More
<https://fb.watch/95KTnstuON/>

Very Sincerely,
Michelle Kennedy