**VENTURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**
**February 28, 2023**
**ADOPTED MINUTES**

## Call to Order

The Regular Board of Education meeting was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at the ESC Board Room, where one or more members participated. The public had the opportunity to submit their public comment in person. The Board meeting was streamed at **https://www.youtube.com/@VenturaUnifiedSchoolDistrict/streams.** Those in attendance were:

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| Board President | Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez |
| Board Vice President | Dr. Jerry Dannenberg |
| Board Member | Ms. Amy Callahan |
| Board Member | Mr. Calvin Peterson |
| Board Member | Mr. James Forsythe |
| Superintendent | Dr. Antonio Castro |
| Asst. Supt. /Bus. Services | Mr. Ahsan Mirza |
| Asst. Supt. /Ed. Services | Dr. Greg Bayless |
| Asst. Supt/Human Resources | Ms. Gina Wolowicz |

## Adoption of Agenda

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve as Amended the agenda with the following change: Consent item 19.h was pulled and will be brought back to the next Board meeting on March 14.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

## Public Comment on Closed Session Items

None.

## Motion to go to Closed Session

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to go to closed session at 5:32 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**REGULAR SESSION - Board Room - 7:00 p.m.**

At 7:01 p.m., Board President Sabrena Rodriguez called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

## Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

There was no action taken in closed session.

**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Dr. Antonio Castro congratulated Ms. Heidi House and the VUSD all-district choir for their amazing performances this past weekend. Dr. Castro noted that the choir includes 50 students ages 5-12, representing eight VUSD schools.

Student Board Members Holden Behrendt, representing El Camino High School, Kelsy Randall representing Foothill High School, and Alex Castro representing VACE, gave brief updates on the exciting things happening at their school sites.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Public Comments**

The following individuals gave a public comment:

1. Christy Weir regarding school fencing, in favor of open campuses, and encouraging VUSD to work with the Ventura Tree Alliance to plant more trees around our schools.
2. Arlene Martinez in favor of open campuses when students are not present.
3. Chere Egbert in favor of open campuses when students are not present.
4. Ina Holladay regarding concerns with transportation getting students to school 1-2 hours before their classes begin and about student safety.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**14.a** **Request for Approval of a Revised Course: Precalculus P to AP Precalculus (First Reading)**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the revised course Precalculus P to AP Precalculus as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.b** **Approval of Amended Measure E Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws**

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the amended Measure E Citizens Oversight Committee Bylaws as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.c** **Modification of the VUSD Calendar for school years 2022-23 and 2023-24 (First Reading)**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the modification of the VUSD calendar for school years 2022-23 and 2023-24, to include the national holiday Juneteenth as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.d** **Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) and Ventura Unified Education Association (VUEA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - Addition of Positions to Article 17 (First Reading)**

It was moved by Ms. Amy Callahan, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the Ventura Unified School District and Ventura Unified Education Association Memorandum of Understating, additions to Article 17 as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.e Consideration of Resolution #23-08 Regarding Release of Temporary Certificated Employees for the 2023-2024 School Year**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve Resolution #23-08, regarding release of temporary certificated employees for the 2023-24 school year as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.f Investment Banking Agreement By and Between Ventura Unified School District and RBC Capital Markets, LLC (First Reading)**

It was moved by Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve the Investment Banking Agreement by and between Ventura Unified School District and RBC Capital Markets, LLC as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**14.g Consideration of Resolution #23-09, Continuing Board of Trustees Authority to Hold Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB 361**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve Resolution #23-09, continuing Board of Trustees authority to hold virtual meetings pursuant to AB361 as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

## CONFERENCE - EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**15.a Update on K-12 Interventions**

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Greg Bayless, gave an update on elementary and secondary interventions. Dr. Bayless reviewed the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) which includes Tier 1 interventions and supports that all students receive, Tier 2 specialized interventions and supports that some students receive, and Tier 3 Intensive Intervention and supports that a few students receive. Dr. Bayless noted that the types of interventions and supports can be educational, behavioral, and or related to mental health.

Dr. Soledad Molinar, Executive Director of Educational Services reviewed Elementary Interventions including types of assessments and timelines, progress monitoring, entrance and exit criteria, case data, and multilingual learner growth. Dr. Bayless along with Ms. Bobbi Powers, Director of Secondary Education, presented on Secondary Interventions. The information included data-based course placement, credit recovery, academic interventions, and prescriptive testing. Ms. Maria Elizarraras, Director of Student Support Services, shared information regarding mental health and behavior interventions available for students in TK through 12 grade. This included Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum for grades Tk-8, student no-contact contracts, positive behavior support plans (PBSP), school counselors, Student Assistance Program (SAP) counselors, and social workers. Lastly, Dr. Lorelle Dawes, Director of Expanded Learning, shared that the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) is currently at 14 VUSD Title 1 schools where over 1500 VUSD students receive academic supports and enrichment. Dr. Dawes noted that beginning in the fall of 2023, ELOP will be at 21 VUSD school sites.

**15.b Consideration for Acceptance of School Accountability Report Cards for the 2021-22 School Year Public Announcement**

Dr. Greg Bayless, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, noted that the 2021-22 School Accountability Report Cards were available for review by February 1, 2023, on the VUSD

website at https://www.venturausd.org/about/school-accountability -report-cards. Dr. Bayless noted that an updated draft report card is available on the internet for parents or guardians and that hard copies are provided upon request.

**15.c** **Consideration for Review of K-12 Schools and Adult Education Comprehensive School Safety Plans for the 2022-23 School Year**

Dr. Greg Bayless, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, noted that the K- 12 Schools and Adult Education Comprehensive Safety Plans for the 2022-23 school year have been submitted to the Board for review and will be brought back to the March 14 Board Meeting for approval. Dr. Bayless shared that the Comprehensive School Safety Plans will be disseminated to school sites and will be stored in an electronic version as well as a hard copy.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

It was moved by Mr. James Forsythe, seconded by Mr. Calvin Peterson and passed on a roll call vote of 4 – 0 to approve consent item 19.e was approved as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Ms. Amy Callahan.
* Trustee Callahan recused herself from this vote.

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Ms. Amy Callahan and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve consent items 16 -19.d and consent item 20.a as presented.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**CONSENT- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

16.a Overnight, Out of the Tri-County and Ratification Field Trips

**CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Certificated**

17.a Ratification of Administration's Approval for Leave of Absence for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

17.b Ratification of Administration's Approval of Resignations, Retirements and Release for Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

17.c Ratification of Administration's Approval of Miscellaneous & Part-Time Certificated Assignments for the 2022-23 School Year

17.d Ratification of Administration's Approval of Employment and Reemployment of Certificated Personnel for the 2022-23 School Year

**CONSENT - HUMAN RESOURCES - Classified**

18.a Classified Personnel Changes

18.b Classified Position Changes

**CONSENT - BUSINESS SERVICES**

19.a Buena High School Gym Mural

19.b Ratification of Change Order #6, C1-23 Mound Fire Reconstruction

19.c Ratification of Purchase Orders and Contracts

19.d Ratification of Check Payments

19.e Ratification of Purchase Orders, Contracts, and Checks - Limited

19.f Designation of Gold Coast Joint Benefits Trust Representatives 2022-23

19.g Appointment of Representative to the Ventura County Schools Self-Funding Authority (VCSSFA) Board of Directors

19.h Appointment of Representatives to the California Schools Employee Benefits Organization (CSEBO) Board of Directors

**CONSENT - SUPERINTENDENT**

20.a Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes

**BOARD REPORTS**

Trustee Dr. Jerry Dannenberg noted his attendance at the Optimist Club Essay Awards breakfast and shared his appreciation for the recognition of our students.

Trustee Mr. James Forsythe shared that he took part in site visits along with Dr. Castro and appreciates the time that staff took to show him their schools.

Trustee Mr. Calvin Peterson noted that the African American Parent Council would be presenting at the Ventura County Office of Education on March 8. Mr. Peterson also noted that he, along with Trustee Callahan, would be presenting at the upcoming CAAASA conference in March. Lastly, Mr. Peterson attended an event at Ventura High School where Councilmember Lori Brown was speaking.

Trustee Ms. Amy Callahan noted her attendance at the Special Board Meeting regarding the budget on February 11 and the Special Board Meeting regarding the New Beginning's Workshop on February 22. Ms. Callahan shared that she attended a cultural conference at the Museum of Tolerance on February 12th and looks forward to her site visits this Friday along with Dr. Castro.

Trustee Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez noted her attendance at the following meetings: Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance (VCREA) meeting, the Ethnic and Social Justice Steering Committee meeting, the Optimist Club Essay Awards breakfast, the VUSD property meeting, and the Special Education Department Advisory Committee (SEDAC) meeting. Ms. Rodriguez also took part in reading scholarship entries from the Ventura County Community Foundation. Lastly, Ms. Rodriguez attended an event at the Blood Cancer Center at VCMC along with Dr. Castro.

**COMING EVENTS**

- Declining Enrollment Committee Meeting – March 2 at 5:00 p.m.
- Parent Advisory Committee Meeting – March 7 at 9:30 a.m.
- Teacher of the Month Celebrations
  - March 2 at El Camino at 3:00 p.m.
  - March 16 at Buena at 3:00 p.m.

**FUTURE BOARD ITEMS**

There was Board consensus to add the following future board items:

- Bond Oversight Committee Members - TBD
- Summer School Update- TBD

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

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

There was no need to return to closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Calvin Peterson, seconded by Mr. James Forsythe and passed on a roll call vote of 5 – 0 to approve to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting on March 14, 2023.

Ayes: Ms. Sabrena Rodriguez, Ms. Amy Callahan, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Mr. Calvin Peterson, Mr. James Forsythe
Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

APPROVED _____ President

_____ Secretary