

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

January 15, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Susan Boyd on January 15, 2008, in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Susan Boyd, Joel Peterson, Jeanne Broberg, Cindy Wilcox and Scott Tracy.

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California. Present were the five Board Members, Superintendent James Stratton, Deputy Superintendent Bill Loose and Assistant Superintendent Mike Leininger. Closed session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Mrs. Susan Boyd, President
- Mr. Joel Peterson, Vice President
- Mrs. Jeanne Broberg, Clerk
- Mrs. Cindy Wilcox, Member
- Mr. Scott Tracy, Member

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:11 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Mr. Stratton, Dr. Loose, Dr. Leininger and Executive Secretary to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 50 people in the audience. Mrs. Boyd asked Ron Dietel to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Boyd reported there was no action taken in closed session.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No agenda modifications were requested.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Boyd stated that the minutes of the November 13, 2007, meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of November 13, 2007, meeting of the Governing Board were approved as presented.

REPORTS

1. Student Representative

Mr. Heller reported that this weekend the juniors will host the Monte Carlo dance, which is the prom fundraiser. The "Use it and Lose it" cell phone policy that has been implemented this year has been very successful resulting in less cell phone usage on campus. Mr. Heller reported on senior attendance stating that the seniors have had record positive attendance this year.

2. Superintendent's Report

a. Presentation by La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation to district

Mr. Stratton introduced La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation current and past Presidents Graham Stumpf and Janna Gosselin. Mr. Stumpf and Mrs. Gosselin presented a check in the amount of \$1,280,000 to Governing Board President Susan Boyd. Mr. Stratton thanked the Foundation for its generous contribution that makes many of our programs possible.

b. Student Recognition

Mr. Stratton introduced La Cañada High School Assistant Principal Joanne Davidson. Ms. Davidson reported on the success of the high school Boy's Water Polo team and its recent CIF Championship. Ms. Davidson introduced Boy's Water Polo coach Larry Naeve. Board President Susan Boyd, Ms. Davidson and Mr. Naeve presented certificates to all members of the Boy's Water Polo team in recognition of the CIF Championship.

3. President's Report

Mrs. Boyd deferred her report.

4. Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Operations Report

Dr. Leininger deferred his report.

OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following audience members addressed the Board:

Mandy Redfern, LCTA President regarding goodbye to Dr. Loose and Ms. Ellis; thanks to La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation; and beginning of LCTA negotiations
 Jeff Olsen, LCHS Parent re: LCHS swimming pool
 Derek Borisoff, volunteer water polo coach re: LCHS swimming pool

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Presentation of 07-08 District negotiations proposal to LCTA, R73-07-08.
 The hearing was opened at 7:53 p.m. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed at 7:53 p.m.

PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

1. Second Reading

- a. **Approval of Plan for Phase II Construction Projects, R68-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Wilcox) to approve the Plan for Phase II Construction Projects, R68-07-08. Dr. Leininger stated that staff is requesting approval of the plan for the phase II construction projects. The total funds available for construction are \$17,667,924.00. Mr. Tracy asked Dr. Leininger when the district will go out for the Series B funds. Dr. Leininger responded late this spring or early summer. Dr. Leininger reported that Series A funds will be used for the Palm Crest Elementary and Paradise Canyon Elementary multi-purpose rooms and that a portion of the high school A building would be funded through the new Series B funds. Mr. Peterson asked if Dr. Leininger sees a shortfall of funds that would prevent the district from completing all projects. Dr. Leininger stated that he believes we will address all major projects outlined in the bond. Mrs. Boyd asked if this request for approval is final approval for all projects. Dr. Leininger clarified that approval of this item permits staff going to the architects for plans that would be needed to go to bid. The Governing Board then approves 1) Request to go to Bid, 2) Acceptance of a particular bid. The motion to approve the Plan for Phase II Construction Projects was adopted unanimously.

2. First Reading

- a. ***Acceptance of 2006-07 Audit Report, R80-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Broberg) to approve the acceptance of the 2006-07 Audit Report, R80-07-08. Dr. Loose introduced the district's auditor Sam Macon who was present to assist with the Audit Report presentation. Dr. Loose stated that the district has received an unqualified report, which is the best a district can receive. Dr. Loose thanked staff for its diligence, which has resulted in a positive audit report with no findings. Mrs. Broberg stated it is very impressive that there are no findings. Mr. Stratton stated there was not even a management letter with recommended changes. Mrs. Wilcox asked for clarification on several items, which Dr. Loose and Mr. Macon provided. Mrs. Wilcox asked if the general obligation bond could be placed separate from the district debt. Mr. Macon discussed the impact of doing that. Mr. Peterson asked for clarification on reserve balances. Mr. Peterson stated that in the interest of negotiations and interest based bargaining we should always distinguish the different reserves and their required or recommended balances. Dr. Loose reported the minimum reserve required is 3% but the district has a reserve goal of 3.5%. The motion to approve the acceptance of the 2006-07 audit report was adopted unanimously.
- b. ***Contract for Telecommunications Services, R83-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Peterson/Tracy) to approve the Contract for Telecommunications Services, R83-07-08. Dr. Leininger reported that the district is currently in a contract with AT&T Pac Bell for telecommunication services which is up for renewal. The district has researched and found that AT&T Pac Bell continues to be the best price for the equipment that meets our needs. Dr. Leininger introduced Director of Technology Enoch Kwok. Mr. Kwok clarified the bid process and reported that AT&T Pac Bell was the lowest bidder. The motion to approve the Contract for Telecommunications Service, R83-07-08 was adopted unanimously.
- c. ***Contract for Fiber Optic Connections, R84-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Broberg/Wilcox) to approve the Contract for Fiber Optic Connections, R84-07-08. Dr. Leininger reported that an increase in internet usage throughout the district has taxed the district's internet connection. The proposal for fiber optic connections will accommodate the high school and elementary demands for the next five years. Mr. Kwok has been able to negotiate a proposal through Charter which would save money over the next five years through a large scale upgrade. Mrs. Broberg asked how the bids were received. Mr. Kwok responded that the bids were received through the E-rate process. Synesis and Charter submitted bids. AT&T's decided they could not compete with those bids. Mr. Kwok reported that as soon as the phones are installed, the centrex line will be disconnected. His goal is to have this all done prior to the beginning of school in the fall. Mrs. Boyd asked about the life span of the new equipment. Mr. Kwok clarified that the service and connections will be maintained by Charter. Mr. Kwok talked about the peak use at the high school and the increased demand of internet use. The motion to approve the Contract for Fiber Option Connections, R84-07-08 was adopted unanimously.
- d. ***CAHSEE Waiver, R74-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Tracy) to approve the CAHSEE Waiver, R74-07-08. Mr. Stratton stated that we have two students who have passed the CAHSEE exam with modifications. The motion waiving the need to have taken the CAHSEE was adopted unanimously.
- e. ***Change in Board meeting dates, R81-07-08.** It was moved and seconded (Peterson/Broberg) to approve the Change in Board meeting dates, R81-07-08. Mr. Stratton reported that the previous calendar conflicted with Founders Day. The motion to approve the change in Governing Board meeting dates from March 11, 2008, to March 10, 2008, was adopted unanimously.

- f. **Request to go to Bid for PCR Multipurpose Room Project, R77-07-08.** First Reading
- g. **Request to go to Bid for PCY Multipurpose Room Project, R77-07-08.** First Reading
- h. **Request to go to Bid for LCHS Building A 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors modernization, R82-07-08.** First Reading. Dr. Leininger discussed these items together stating the district is currently at DSA for the Paradise Canyon multipurpose room project and the Palm Crest multipurpose room project. It will be a push to get bids out and ready for work this summer. Dr. Leininger anticipates going to DSA in the next 3 – 4 weeks on the modernization at the high school. Mr. Tracy asked Dr. Leininger where the Design Review Committee is in this process. Dr. Leininger responded that they have been included in the whole process and he is very comfortable that the committee has had an ample review of the projects. Mr. Peterson reported that the Design Review Committee has put together a list of requests and those requests were responded to through a meeting with the architects and the committee. Mr. Tracy asked if Dr. Leininger and Mr. Peterson thought the committee was a valuable asset. Mr. Peterson stated that now that a charter has been drafted and the purpose of the committee has been defined, there is a good process that allows community input. Dr. Leininger stated it is a lengthy process but it is worth the time. Mrs. Boyd asked for the projected costs of going to bid. Dr. Leininger stated a majority of the money to go to bid is on advertising and printing costs. Going to bid costs approximately \$2,000 per bid. These items will come back to the Governing Board for a second reading.

3. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Peterson) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.

- a. **Personnel Report, P8-07-08.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: *Certificated:* Resignation: Dr. William Loose. BTSA Support Providers: Ingrid Jaimes, Jackie Castro, Mary Walsten, Pam Watts, Pat Harris, Rob Hajek, Mary Lou Langedyke. *Classified:* Resignation: Hillary Gaede. Leave of Absence: Rickie Wang. Terminations: Kathleen Boss, Ivet Parseghian.
- b. **Extra Duty, Extra Pay, P9-07-08.** The Board approved the Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report.
- c. **Approval of Consulting Agreement, R76-07-08.** The Board approved the Consulting Agreement with Stephen R. Hodgson for Business Services consulting services.
- d. **Gifts to District, R79-07-08.** The Board approved the Gifts to the District as presented.
- e. **Purchase Order List #8-07-08.** The Board approved Purchase Order List #8.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Boyd distributed the Community Liaison assignments for 2008.

Mrs. Wilcox reported that she had talked to community member Al Restivo regarding his recent column in the newspaper and that he offered to provide a session on group processes to the school Board.

The Board supported second readings of the requests to go to bid for the Paradise Canyon multipurpose room, the Palm Crest multipurpose room and the high school building A projects at the February 5, 2008, Governing Board meeting.

Workshops were discussed. Mr. Stratton recommended that the Palm Drive district office property not be presented once again as a workshop, but come back to the Governing Board as an agenda item.

A Safety and Traffic Issue workshop was discussed. Mrs. Boyd suggested a report be provided that covers current safety process and procedures. Mr. Stratton suggested members of the Governing Board provide workshop questions in advance to ensure Governing Board members questions are covered in the workshop. It was agreed that questions be sent to Dr. Leininger by Friday and depending on the length of the questions it will be considered as a report at the February 26th meeting.

Dr. Leininger will provide a parking study report in TWIR.

Mrs. Wilcox requested a workshop on GATE. Mr. Stratton stated that since this is not one of the key 2007-08 goals he would like to consider this for the summer. Mr. Tracy suggested having the workshop in June. Mr. Stratton stated he will have the GATE Coordinator start planning for a workshop in June.

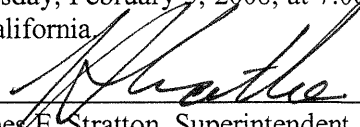
Mr. Stratton would like a Facilities Master Plan Review as a workshop session. Mr. Stratton asked Dr. Leininger to confer with the architects on a timeline.

Mrs. Wilcox stated she would like to bring the high school pool to the Governing Board and asked how to do that. Mr. Stratton reported the parameters regarding the funding of the pool have changed dramatically and that staff is not presenting this request. The most appropriate way Mr. Stratton sees this coming back to the Governing Board is through the Facilities Master Plan. Mrs. Boyd clarified that entities would need to work with staff to get a project on to the Facilities Master Plan for discussion. Mr. Stratton suggested the pool people share all the detailed information they have directly with Dr. Leininger so he can then pass it on to the architects and the sites for Master Facility Plan consideration. Mr. Stratton reported that he talked to legal counsel on how to address a proposal coming in from an outside entity. Counsel recommended that we continue to use "Opportunity to Address the Board on Non-agendized Items" for this purpose. It was also agreed to include in TWIR and to distribute to the pool parents the process and forms developed for proceeding with capital outlay projects (e.g. the LCE Science Center). It was agreed that Dr. Leininger would meet with the pool people to go over the capital project process with them so they understand the steps that need to be taken.

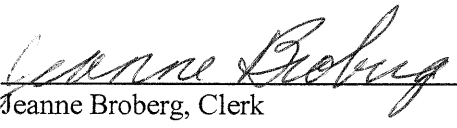
The Governing Board and Staff ^{discussed} discussion a couple of alternative methods for community members to bring reports and proposals to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:11 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Round Building at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Canada, California.


James E. Stratton, Superintendent
Secretary to the Governing Board

MINUTES APPROVED


Jeanne Broberg, Clerk

2-26-08
Date

