

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

April 27, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of La Cañada Unified School District was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Andy Beattie on April 27, 2004 in Room 41 at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were Board Members Andy Beattie, Ron Dietel, Cindy Wilcox, Scott Tracy, and Jinny Dalbeck, Superintendent Sue Leabo, Deputy Superintendent Jim Stratton and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Governing Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:01 p.m. in Room 41 at 4490 Cornishon Avenue in La Cañada, California. Present were the five Board Members and Superintendent Sue Leabo. Deputy Superintendent Jim Stratton and Chief Business Officer Dave Banis joined the Governing Board and the Superintendent at 6:00 p.m. Closed session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Andy Beattie, President  
Mr. Ron Dietel, Vice President  
Mrs. Cindy Wilcox, Clerk  
Mr. Scott Tracy, Member  
Mrs. Jinny Dalbeck, Member

**REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting of the Governing Board was reconvened at 7:14 p.m. in the La Cañada High School Information Resource Center. Present were the five Governing Board Members, Dr. Leabo, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Banis, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent Kim Bergner. There were approximately 10 people in the audience. Mr. Beattie asked Susan Boyd to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Beattie reported there are several items to report from closed session. The board unanimously voted in closed session to reject the claim for damages filed on behalf of student #4870.

Secondly, the board unanimously voted to expel student 2-03-04 for violation of Education code 48900 (c) and 48915 (a)(3) and in accordance with Education Code 48917 to waive enforcement through spring semester 2003-2004 subject to stated conditions and rehabilitation plan provisions.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Wilcox) to approve the agenda. The motion to approve the agenda was adopted unanimously. It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Tracy) to amend the agenda to move 3 I to become item 1 H and to move the Presidents Report before the Superintendents Report and move item B of the Presidents Report before item A. The motion to amend the agenda was adopted unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Beattie stated that the minutes of the March 9, 2004 regular meeting of the Governing Board and the March 16, 2004 special meeting of the Governing Board had been distributed to the Governing Board Members in advance for review. The minutes of the March 9, 2004 and March 16, 2004 were approved as presented.

4/27/04

**REPORTS****2. President's Report**

**b) T.H.A.N.K.S. Award Presentation** – Mr. Beattie reported he is delighted to be presenting the T.H.A.N.K.S. award to Susan Boyd. It is with heartfelt thanks the board presents this award to Ms. Boyd for her hard work and dedication as Chair of Measures B and P. Mrs. Dalbeck also congratulated Mrs. Boyd and thanked her for her leadership.

**a). Legislative Update-** Mr. Beattie turned this over to Mrs. Dalbeck to report on some legislative issues. Mrs. Dalbeck and Mr. Dietel are involved in the Five Star Coalition. Carol Liu attended the most recent meeting and believes there will be some kind of categorical reform. Ms. Liu believes that some of the mandated programs may be removed. Ms. Liu also discussed the state budget and expects more cuts to be made in education in the May revise. Budget deficits are projected as far out as the 2008-09 budget. Five Star is watching several pieces of legislation, SB1795 regarding graduation requirements and SB409 regarding reserve accounts for deferred maintenance. Mr. Dietel discussed some other issues discussed at Five Star. Mr. Dietel stated Mr. Bowman, Superintendent of Burbank Unified, reported on the shortfalls many districts across the state are experiencing. Five Star is also tracking the No Child Left Behind impact. William Ouchi, a former assistant to Riordan, has a new idea regarding school district reform. Mr. Ouchi is working on this reform along with Richard Riordan. Education is still a hot topic in the legislature. There are over 300 bills in the legislature right now regarding education. At the June Five Star meeting, the Coalition will be talking with Adam Shiff regarding No Child Left Behind.

**1. Superintendent's Report**

a) Bond Construction Update – Dr. Leabo distributed a memo to the board providing an update on the 2004 Bond. Dr. Leabo discussed each site's projects. Dr. Leabo reported the district should have \$15,000,000 of the \$25,000,000 Bond in August. The district will do multiple prime and will hire a construction manager. The district has asked PCM3 to submit a proposal. The district will not be asking for proposals from other Construction Management firms. PCM3's costs are comparable and the district has been pleased with them in the past. Mrs. Dalbeck recommended we state in the contract if we want a certain PCM3 employee to be in charge of the districts projects. Mrs. Dalbeck stated it is important the architect not be the construction management. Mrs. Dalbeck requested receiving information from School Financial Services regarding the current terms and fees for architectural and construction management firms.

**2. Student Representative Report**

Mr. Masters reported this week is CAT-6 testing, which means the seniors get to come to school late. A program called "Every 15 minutes" will be coming to the high school. This is the first time this program will be done at the high school. Mr. Masters reported that every 15 minutes in the United States a teenager dies in a drunk driving incident, so on Thursday, May 20 there will be a fake automobile accident on campus, then a grim reaper will appear and will take kids from class. This program is to get the word out about drunk driving. May 21<sup>st</sup> is Senior Ditch Day, the seniors are going to Catalina. This is a pre-approved day. The Saturday after Catalina is Senior Prom, "What Dreams May Come". Mr. Masters reported both Varsity Softball and Varsity Baseball are in the running for first place in their leagues. Last week the high school had battle of the bands and 5 school bands brought all their equipment and every day of the week bands played. Mr. Dietel asked Mr. Masters about the food in the Cafeteria. Mr. Masters responded he loves the pizza.

**OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following audience members addressed the Board:

None

## PROPOSED ACTION ITEMS

### 1. First Reading

- a. **\*Fee for Bus Service to and from Chilao, R135-03-04.** It was moved and seconded (Dalbeck/Wilcox) to approve the Fee for Bus Services to and from Chilao, R135-03-04. Mr. Banis reported discussions have occurred with parents in the district. A fee of \$115 per family, per month, for ten months has been proposed. Parents have agreed and it is recommended this begin for the 04-05 school year. At the district's discretion a financial hardship could be provided. Dr. Leabo thanked the Chilao parents for their hard work and cooperation. The motion to approve a Fee for Bus Service to and from Chilao was adopted unanimously.
- b. **\*Resolution 22-03-04 School Holidays.** Dr. Leabo reported the teachers did not approve the calendar and the district will have to go back into negotiations with LCTA. Therefore this item was withdrawn.
- c. **\*Resolution 23-03-04 Proclaiming May 12, 2004 as the Day of the Teacher.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dietel) to approve Resolution 23-03-04 Proclaiming May 12, 2004 as the Day of the Teacher. This is an annual event that has occurred in the State of California for about 20 years to recognize the teachers. The motion to approve Resolution#23-03-04 Proclaiming May 12, 2004 as the Day of the Teacher was adopted unanimously.
- d. **\*Resolution 24-03-04 Proclaiming May 16-22, 2004 Classified School Employees Week.** It was moved and seconded (Tray/Dalbeck) to approve Resolution 24-03-04 Proclaiming May 16-22, 2004 Classified School Employees Week. Dr. Leabo reported the classified staff has been great. There currently are fewer employees doing more work. The district has a very dedicated classified staff and the district has a great working relationship with them. The motion to approve Resolution #24-03-04 Proclaiming May 16-22, 2004 Classified School Employees Week was adopted unanimously.
- e. **\*Resolution 26-03-04 Authorizing Issuance of 2004 General Obligation Bonds Series A.** It was moved and seconded (Wilcox/Dietel) to approve Resolution 26-03-04 Authorizing Issuance of 2004 General Obligation Bonds Series A. Mr. Banis reported in order to begin the upgrade of facilities the issuance of \$15,000,000 is necessary. The sale of the bonds would be structured such that the cost of issuance of the bonds will be covered by the sale of the bonds. Mrs. Wilcox requested the district look into making the bonds available to the community. Mr. Tracy asked to review the draft from George K. Baum for the presentation being made for the issuance of the Bonds. The motion to approve Resolution 26-03-04 Authorizing Issuance of 2004 General Obligation Bonds Series A was adopted unanimously.
- f. **\*Amendment to Contract for Architectural Services with Osborn Architects, R142-03-04.** It was moved and seconded (Dietel/Tracy) to approve the amendment to the contract for architectural services with Osborn Architects. Mr. Banis reported Osborn Architects has worked with the district since 1995. An amendment to their contract is being proposed. Osborn Architects is amending their rate and fee schedule. The fee schedule is below the state recommended fee schedule for architectural services. Mr. Dietel questioned whether there would be any reason to go out to bid for these services. Mrs. Dalbeck reported most of the architects are over committed and comments have been that if you have a working relationship with an architect now you should maintain that relationship. The motion to approve the amendment to the contract for Architectural Services with Osborn Architects was adopted unanimously.
- g. **Approval of Language Arts Literature Book, R139-03-04.** This is being presented as a first reading. The board is requested to approve The Watsons Go to Birmingham as an additional supplemental book. This is not a change in core literature. This book

is currently not being used by the district. This item will come back at the next scheduled board meeting for a second reading.

- h. **Approval of Assistance League Contract for Fine Arts Academy/Music Classes for 2004-05 School Year, R144-03.** It was moved and seconded (Tracy/Wilcox) to approve the contract with Assistance League for Fine Arts Academy/Music Classes for the 2004-05 school year. Mr. Stratton stated Assistance League is proposing the music program run outside of the school day before and after school. What they haven't decided is how many instructors there will be and how the classes will be divided. The motion to approve the contract with the Assistance League was adopted unanimously.

## 2. Second Reading

- a. **Approve School Calendar for 2004-05, R130-03-4.** This item was withdrawn.

## 3. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded (Dietel/Wilcox) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was approved by a 4-0 vote with Mrs. Dalbeck abstaining.

- a. **Personnel Report, P20-03-04.** The Board approved the following Personnel Items: Certificated: *Modification:* MaryJane Hufstedler, *Retirement:* Corinne Venit, *Resignation:* Tawni Allen. Classified: Hires: Rita Arzooian, Josephine Faeldonea, Rima Hovsepian, Anette Kazarian, Sarah Jones, Kathleen Marini, *Resignations:* Juanita Villarreal, Annalise Waterman, *Retirement:* Alfredo Contreras. CMSA: *Retirement:* Phyllis Bige, Judy Mitz.
- b. **Extra Duty, Extra Pay, P21-03-04.** The Board approved the Extra Duty/Extra Pay Report.
- c. **Approve Special Meeting of the Governing Board, R143-03-04.** The Board approved the special meeting of the Governing Board on May 11, 2004.
- d. **Non-Public School/Non-Public Agency Contracts, R141-03-04.** The Board approved the non-public school/non-public agencies contracts.
- e. **Request to go to Bid for Student Field Trip and Athletic Transportation and Home to School Transportation-Chilao Area for 2004-2005, R138-03-04.** The Board approved the Request to go to Bid for Student Field Trip and Athletic Transportation and Home to School transportation – Chilao Area for 2004-2005.
- f. **Approval of Agreement with Bond Counsel, R140-03-04.** The Board approved the agreement with bond counsel.
- g. **Approval of Job Description: Maintenance HVAC, R136-03-04.** The Board approved the job description presented.
- h. **Variable Term Waiver Request, R134-03-04.** The Board approved the variable term waiver request.
- i. **Approval of Assistance League Contract for Fine Arts Academy/Music Classes for 2004-05 School Year, R144-03-04.** This item was moved to First Reading (asterisk).
- j. **Gifts to District, R137-03-04.** The Board approved the Gifts to District.
- k. **Purchase Order List #12.** The Board approved purchase order list #12.

## COMMUNICATIONS

May 24<sup>th</sup> Joanne Davidson will speak on the every fifteen minutes topic at City Hall from 7 – 9 p.m.

Mrs. Dalbeck discussed field trips. Mrs. Dalbeck requested an evaluation form on field trips be created to go out to every one who participates in a field trip (i.e. students, chaperones and parents) to make sure the district is meeting the goals of these field trips. Mrs. Dalbeck would like this to be worked on over the summer so the forms can be in place at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year. Mrs. Dalbeck suggested starting with those field trips that come to the board for approval, which are the

overnight trips and those outside of the county. Mrs. Dalbeck and Mrs. Wilcox volunteered to work on two forms, one for students and one for adults and to talk to Mr. Stratton when drafts are complete.

Calendars were discussed.

The YMCA is interested in providing middle school after school programs, which are supported by private donations at our district. The YMCA is currently working with Glendale and Verdugo.

Mr. Tracy reported he attended a Foundation Endowment Trustee meeting Thursday night and reported the program is really taking shape.

Mrs. Wilcox questioned whether a date has been set for a parcel tax workshop. Dr. Leabo reported the district needs to know the implications of the stated budget first. However, if the district wants to consider a November election there is an August deadline. It was agreed to schedule a workshop sometime in the summer.

It was recommended Mr. Beattie work with staff to start calendaring some Goals workshops.


### CLOSED SESSION

The regular meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 8:56 p.m.

Mr. Beattie reported out of closed session at 10:04 p.m. Mr. Beattie stated there was no action taken in closed session

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m. The Next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 41 at 4490 Cornishon Avenue.



Sue Leabo, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Governing Board

### MINUTES APPROVED



Cindy Wilcox, Clerk

6-29-04

