

**Conejo Valley Unified School District  
District Advisory Council Meeting  
Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

**Minutes**

**1. General Meeting Session**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

Susan Hanscom called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

Susan Hanscom led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. Announcements, Procedures and Roll Call**

Susan Hanscom made announcements and read the procedures.

Roll Call – A roll call was taken of DAC members:

Angie Pena (Acacia)	Enrico Soracco (Weathersfield)
Kristen Majda (Aspen)	Paula Kissell (Westlake Elem)
Ann Maree Paglia (Banyan)	Karen Sylvester (WHS)
Alysia Flamer (Colina)	Susan Hanscom (Chairperson)
Kelly Gutierrez (Conejo / OCLM)	Heather O'Connor (Vice-Chairperson, Cypress)
Eilene Green (CV Adult School)	Tammy Adams (Secretary, TOHS)
Liz Allen (Earths)	Rocky Capobianco (Parliamentarian, Century)
Jennifer Joseph (Lang Ranch)	Robin Bromberg (Member-at-Large)
Dina Langhorne (Los Cerritos)	Joo Cho (Member-at-Large)
Jean Bridges (Madrona)	Cindy Goldberg (Member-at-Large)
Marriane Merrill (Maple)	Alexandra Kitchell (Member-at-Large, Sycamore Cyn)
Kayce Daniels (Redwood)	Cindy Mayling (Member-at-Large)
Joo Cho (Sequoia)	Robyn Schwartz (Member-at-Large)
Jill Frazier (Walnut)	

**D. Approval of Agenda**

Rocky Capobianco made a motion to amend the Agenda with the spelling correction of Susan Hanscom's name and Cindy Mayling seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Cindy Goldberg moved to approve the Agenda as amended and Robyn Schwartz seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**E. Reports from DAC Representatives:**

**1. Board of Education Meeting Update – Susan Hanscom**

- Betsy Connolly was congratulated on being re-elected to another term on the School Board, and Sandee Everett for being elected as a new school board member.

- Peggy Buckles was thanked for her many years of service as a School Board Member and dedicated advocacy for the children of the Conejo Valley.
  - Reorganization of the Board members took place. The Board voted Mike Dunn, President; John Andersen, Vice President; Sandee Everett, Clerk.
  - Student speakers spoke on a variety of topics including funding for the swim team vs. funding for the football team, desire for security cameras in the parking lot, and the desire for more bathrooms. The number and availability of bathrooms, especially female bathrooms at Westlake High School has been mentioned before.
  - Concern about the Westlake High School football coach being fired was expressed.
  - Two years of the school calendar passed.
  - There were many speakers during both school board meetings who spoke on behalf of keeping the United Cerebral Palsy program at the Waverly campus. Dr. Bonitatibus confirmed at the last week's meeting that no final decision has been made, and the United Cerebral Palsy program has not been given an eviction notice.
  - Dr. Boone gave a presentation on the 2016 History-Social Science Framework. The district will be researching new social science text books for adoption next year based upon the FAIR ACT. History and Social Science Policy will be voted on during the December 13 Board Meeting.
  - A community member spoke during public comments expressing her concern about an ongoing problem at elementary schools selling alcohol. She filed a complaint with the ABC.
  - Ladera PTA members, parents and neighbors spoke at two Board Meetings expressing their concern with a community member's actions toward them and their program. These members said that accusations were not true and that a representative with the ABC said that there wasn't a case. Parents asked the Board and the District for help with what they described as bullying.
  - Parents have asked the Board and District Staff to investigate any protections they may have when unfair accusations are made against them. The Board seemed just as concerned as parents and will continue to explore options.
  - There is a Board Meeting tonight. If you can't make it in person, I encourage you to watch it via live streaming.
2. Budget Committee – Tammy Adams
    - Currently the District budget is in a positive place.
  3. Family Life committee – Marrienne Merrill – None
  4. Legislative Report – TBD – None
  5. School Choice Committee – Rocky Capobianco
    - School Choice documents were approved by the School Board.
    - TK School Choice will have a sibling advantage this year.

- School Choice will open in February and end in March.
  - There is typically a School Choice waiting list for some schools. The waiting list will be exhausted before out of district students will be considered.
6. Student Learning through Technology – TBD - None
  7. Teacher Evaluation Focus Group Committee – TBD - None
  8. Technology Committee – TBD - None
  9. Wellness Committee – Tammy Adams
    - The next meeting is in January.
  10. Homework Committee – Cindy Mayling
    - Proposed a reorganization of the committee.
    - 3 teachers, 3 administrators, a board member, and a small group of parents.
    - Focus on a policy that is meaningful to everyone.
- F. Reports from Support Organizations
1. California School Employees Association (CSEA) – Kathy Swindle - None
  2. Conejo Council PTA's (CCPTA) – Paula Nathan
    - The Conejo Council PTA surpassed their goal of 6500 members.
    - PTA's are important, they give our schools the help they need, they provide insurance for all of PTA activities, they give us a collective voice in education all the way up to the national level. Every child, one voice. Please encourage families to support the PTA.
    - At the Executive Board meeting we helped the Temple Adat Elohim with their annual Community Christmas dinner by making favors for their attendees. The Conejo Council PTA has performed this task for longer than anyone can remember.
    - When PTA, Boosters, and the many other wonderful school support groups communicate and collaborate together we can help solve problems that affect our district. We can comment on policies that affect our organizations, we can share information that benefits us, we can work together for a better, stronger District that is an example for all other Districts to follow.
  3. Conejo Schools Foundation (CSF) – Cindy Goldberg
    - BreakThrough in partnership with the Conejo Schools Foundation will be hosting Mental Health workshops. These workshops will be led by local experts in the Mental Health and Education fields and held in the Horizon Hills Multipurpose Room. There will be 5 topics with one session for elementary parents and one session for secondary parents.
      - Presenting Lessons from the Jedi Masters
      - Connecting with Your Child
      - Anxiety: Signs, Symptoms, Strategies

- Understanding Your Child's Brain
    - Your Child and Technology
  - Check the Conejo Schools Foundation website for dates and to make reservations. <http://www.conejoschools.org/events/parent-workshops>
  - Starlight Soiree, Honoring the Stars of the Conejo Valley, February 25, 2017 at Los Robles Greens. Pat Phelps and Frank LaGuardia will be honored.
  - TEDx Youth @Conejo is March 19, 2017 at Thousand Oaks High School. The theme this year is Finding Your Groove.
4. Conejo Valley Pupil Personnel Association (CVPPA) - Jennifer Sheppard, Rachel Guyette
    - Sycamore Canyon Coyote Peer Program. About 30 middle school students have been trained in conflict resolution. These students are helping resolve peer issues at the middle school. They are also working as academic peer tutors to students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade that are struggling with math.
    - The students are also working with the elementary students during recess to help teach good sportsmanship, referee games, and help problem solve.
  5. District English Learners Advisory Council (DELAC) - Martina Barnstedt, Ulrike Nagorsen - None
  6. Gifted & Talented Education District Advisory Council (GATEDAC) - Susan Cristea, Christy Camp - None
  7. Conejo Library Committee – Joo Cho
    - Thousand Oaks Library system has been busy offering patrons diverse programming choices to meet their needs. The Children and Teen services Department continue to provide regular story times and kinder music classes.
    - Other activities hosted include, "Hour of Code" where kids were invited to explore the world of coding. Cartooning classes with David Boatman. "Off to College" a program where students applying to colleges could get advice from Deanna Kubit of Off2CollegeNow, a private college planning and counseling service.
    - Family Movie Matinees will continue with latest movie releases such as The BFG, Finding Dory, and Secret Life of Pets.
    - Holiday hours: Please check the Library website for Holiday Hours before you go during the last week of December. The Newbury Park Branch will close early on December 23 and remain closed until January 2. The Main Library will have modified hours.
    - Library Service Spotlight: Beanstack. Beanstack is a personalized readers advisory service for babies to early middle school students. It recommends books and apps for your specific child based on their personalized preferences, such as princess, adventures and horses. Each week, you will receive an email with a recommendation chosen just for your child. This is a great service to find out about books and apps that you may not be aware of.

Whether you have a voracious reader and can't keep up, or a reluctant reader and you're trying to find just the right book, Beanstack recommendations will come in handy. More information can be found on Thousand Oaks Library website. <http://www.tolibrary.org>

8. Measure I Bond Citizens Oversight Committee – Marshall Denninger – None
9. Neighborhood for Learning (NFL) – Amie Mills, Director - None
10. Unified Association of Conejo Teachers (UACT) – Randy Smith – None

#### G. Comments

##### 1. Public

*(Pursuant to the Brown Act, the CVUSD District Advisory Council (DAC) cannot enter into formal discussion with individuals making public comments to the DAC. The DAC cannot take action on any issues raised during public comments that are not on the meeting agenda. Members may respond to public comments during the Individual Comments section of the agenda.)*

##### 2. DAC Chairperson – Susan Hanscom

- Thank all of you for your commitment to our schools and our children. Your contributions and many volunteer hours contribute to the success of CVUSD's programs. I have been enriched by my participation and collaboration with you.
- Please don't be dissuaded or discouraged by a lone voice. We encourage the public to attend our meetings, and to be engaged with us and with their community. Although we are mandated to allow for public comment by the Brown Act, we would do so anyway. Members of the public are permitted to speak on any topic during the public comments section of the agenda.
- I would like to thank the teachers who give so much of themselves to our kids. I believe that teachers have the most important job in the world, and they have my greatest respect.

##### 3. DAC Member Comments

- A DAC member asked about starting a committee to discuss and address the achievement gap.
- A DAC member asked if Measure I funds can be redirected. A long term budget plan should be available spring 2017.
- A DAC member thanked Pat Phelps for her work on the CVUSD Board. The member also expressed concern with the protocol used during School Board Meetings, particularly as it pertains to public comments.

#### A. Site Concerns and Successes

1. Newbury Park High School won the Oxnard College GeoBowl Challenge over Thanksgiving break. NPBS has won 5 out of the last 7 years.

4. CVUSD Deputy Superintendent of Instruction / State & Federal Program Coordinator – Robert Iezza
  - Dr. Bonitatibus will give an update on the Conejo Valley Learning Center Project at tonight's Board Meeting.
  - Working on Board Policy Language regarding alcohol at fundraisers. Clarification is needed for when or if alcohol can be used in fundraisers. Once the board approves the language, every school site will have a clear understanding of what is allowed for fundraisers.

## II. Action Items – General

*(Each item requires a motion for approval)*

## III. Action Items – Consent

*(These items are considered routine and will be approved in one action without Discussion. If the DAC members request that an item be removed from Consent or a citizen wishes to speak to an item, the item will be considered under Action Items.)*

### A. Approval of Minutes –

Heather O'Connor moved to approve the Minutes and Cindy Mayling seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## IV. Information / Discussion Items

*(For discussion only; no action is taken on information items.)*

### A. School Calendar Update – Robert Iezza, Deputy Superintendent

- The Board approved the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 school calendars. Calendars are subject to change.

### B. "How to Raise an Adult" Book Club Summary – Dr. Ann N. Bonitatibus, ED.D, Superintendent

- Last year Dr. Bonitatibus conducted Focus Groups and one thing that came up multiple times was social-emotional needs of kids and what is a way to open conversations about the problem.
- Working with the Thousand Oaks Library, the book "How to Raise an Adult" was chosen as the first book for the Book Club to start the conversation regarding social and emotional needs of the kids.
- At one of the Book Club meetings, a list of "one piece of advice to give parents" was compiled. Dr. Bonitatibus will email Susan Hanscom the list for distribution.

### C. Newbury Park High School Holiday Performance – John Sargent, Choral Music Director

- Newbury Park Vocal Assembled Honors Chamber Singers performed their Holiday Performance.

- 5 songs were performed, Carol of the Bells, Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning, Bring a Torch Isabella, Silver Bells, This Day a Child is Born.

## V. Adjournment – General Meeting Session

Susan Hanscom adjourned the General Meeting Session at 11:30 a.m.

## VI. Executive Board Meeting Session

### A. Call the Meeting to order and Roll Call

1. Susan Hanscom called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

2. Roll call was taken:

Susan Hanscom, Rocky Capobianco, Tammy Adams, Cindy Goldberg, Robyn Schwartz, Cindy Mayling, Robert Iezza, Joo Cho, Robin Bromberg, Alexandra Kitchell, Heather O'Connor

### B. Comments

1. Public (*for Executive Board Meeting Agenda items only*) – None

2. DAC Chairperson

- Thanked members for the time and participation on DAC. Discussed current committees and deleting inactive committees, such as the legislative report committee, and the teacher evaluation and focus group committee. Need to find someone for the technology committee. It was suggested that a student from Century Academy attend the technology committee and report back to DAC. Another possibility is to have two members split the role. Rocky Capobianco and Tammy Adams will both be on the budget committee.

3. DAC Members

- Can the District take the pledge to make our schools safe learning environments for all students? Should our schools be sanctuaries? Where does the student technology and resource stand? Cindy G. reported that the website is complete, but that no one is running it now.

4. CVUSD Deputy Superintendent

- Discussion of Library compatibility with the District.

### C. Consideration of Ideas for General Meeting Agenda

1. Site Concerns and Successes (prior submission during General Meetings) - None

2. Suggestions for Presentation Topics

- Measure I update

- Fair Act and the new History/Social Science framework from Dr. Boone.
- 3. Possible Future Agenda Items
  - Social Emotional Needs. How are we meeting these needs, especially at the elementary and middle school levels?
  - 504 vs. IEP? What is the difference and what is the process? Dr. Morse
  - Fulcrum – How does it differ for Outdoor School and at Middle School?
  - Fundraising – Cost and 3<sup>rd</sup> party involvement, disclosures from outside sources.


VII. Adjournment – Executive Board Meeting Session  
Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

1/10/17

Date

1/10/17

Date



Susan Hanscom, Chairperson



Robert Iezza, Deputy Superintendent  
Instructional Services