



**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Minutes of Regular Board Meeting**  
**June 8, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER/MEETING PLACE**

The meeting was held in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-33-20 and N-25-20 in regard to the COVID-19 virus, which included provisions relating to the Brown Act in regard to local legislative bodies, such as school boards, holding meetings via teleconference. Notice was given that the regular meeting of the Las Virgenes Unified School District Board of Education, scheduled for June 8, 2021 would be live-streamed for the public to observe. Members of the public were also allowed to provide comments in writing or in person.

Board President Angela Cutbill called the Board meeting to order at 4:41 p.m. at the Las Virgenes Unified School District, 4111 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Cutbill  
Dallas Lawrence  
Linda Menges  
Lesli Stein  
Kate Vadehra

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION REGARDING CALENDARING ASSIGNMENTS AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board Adjourned to Closed Session at 4:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session Adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER OPEN SESSION**

President Cutbill reconvened the Board meeting at 5:40 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Angela Cutbill  
Dallas Lawrence  
Linda Menges  
Lesli Stein  
Kate Vadehra

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Daniel Stepenosky, Superintendent  
Karen Kimmel, Assistant Superintendent of Business  
Dr. Steve Scifres, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources  
Dr. Clara Finneran, Assistant Superintendent of Education  
Dr. Ryan Gleason, Director of Education and Leadership  
Laura Kintz, Director of Elementary Education

Robbie Amodio, Director of Human Resources  
Angie Falk, Director of Pupil Services  
Jim Klein, Chief Technology Officer

#### **STAFF ABSENT**

None

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Dr. Steve Scifres.

#### **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

President Cutbill reported that the Board of Education took no specific action in Closed Session.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved the agenda of June 8, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the Board of Education approved the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2021.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

#### **STAFF/BOARD COMMUNICATION**

The Board of Education and Cabinet honored those individuals that were instrumental during the pandemic: Kirk Tamaddon, M.D., Kaiser Permanente Area Medical Director and Chief of Staff; Willem Henning, Albertsons Pharmacy District Manager; Melissa Foster, LVUSD District Nurse; and the AHS and CHS Student Tutors.

Dr. Stepenosky shared how important these people were to the success of LVUSD this year. They helped us open and operate safely during the pandemic. Dr. Tamaddon spent many hours via email and phone calls communicating with Dr. Stepenosky and made himself available to the Board during closed sessions and to the community via webinars. Ms. Foster spent many hours working to keep the staff and students safe.

President Cutbill thanked Dr. Tammadon and Ms. Foster on behalf of the Board of Education. She presented them with a Proclamation.

The Board of Education and Cabinet honored the Certificated and Classified Employees of the Month; Sahar Barsoum, Psychologist, Calabasas High School, and Jennifer Fisher, Health Clerk, Calabasas High School.

Ms. Cutbill shared that on behalf of the Board of Education, she was honored to congratulate and honor both employees tonight. She thanked Ms. Barsoum and Ms. Fisher for all they do for the students in the District.

Ms. Stein shared that she had the pleasure of visiting A.E. Wright Middle School with Dr. Vadehra. It was wonderful to see how happy the students were to be back on campus. Ms. Stein also visited Sumac Elementary with President Cutbill. That was so much fun to see the younger students in action. She attended the Agoura Hills Westlake Village City meeting with Ms. Menges. All those in attendance were very complimentary towards our staff with respect to our communication and opening plans. They spoke of our protocols and how wonderful the District has handled the pandemic. Ms. Stein congratulated Dr. Gleason on receiving his doctorate degree. To finish during a pandemic, raising a family, and working full time, was a huge accomplishment.

Ms. Menges visited Calabasas High School with President Cutbill. It was wonderful to be back on campus and see how engaged the students were. Having cohorts made the classes more intimate which was nice to see. Ms. Menges shared that she has been able to see some award ceremonies and concerts throughout the District which has been enjoyable. She watched Mariposa's 8th grade project presentation. Ms. Menges also visited White Oak Elementary and visited their Wax Museum. There were some amazing costumes in this museum.

Mr. Lawrence visited Lindero Canyon Middle School. He shared a couple of pictures from his visit showing the innovative ways our teachers taught this year. It was amazing to see the students playing music outside. There are specially designed masks for each instrument. It was wonderful to see how innovative playing music has become during this pandemic. Mr. Lawrence spoke to the 8th grade Leadership Class. The students shared their concerns about the long term impact this pandemic will have on them. Mr. Lawrence continued that students are very resilient and will not be defined by their past. Mr. Lawrence attended the Calabasas Chamber of Education meeting this week. He gave a shout-out to the scholarships that were given out by the Chamber of Commerce. The Pumpkin Festival will come back this year. He thanked Ms. Kimmel and the Finance team. They did a phenomenal job this year.

Dr. Vadehra gave a shout-out to Ms. Tina Johnson and Mr. Jim Klein for arranging the special author visit from Salva Dut. He wrote a book called A Long Walk to Water. The webinar was phenomenal and inspiring. She shared that our students have been hard at work this year. Dr. Vadehra watched the CHS Music Concert which was incredible. The enthusiasm came through. She was able to watch the AHS Jazz ensemble play during the Ellington Jazz Festival which was wonderful. Those students won many awards. She also attended the Lindero Canyon Music Concert. She commented that the students played beautifully. Some of our athletes went to the play-offs which was wonderful. The students really prevailed this year despite the pandemic.

Ms. Cutbill thanked A.E. Wright Middle School for decorating the Boardroom. The artwork looks wonderful. She thanked our staff who have worked tirelessly. Ms. Cutbill thanked Mr. Craig Hochhaus who will be retiring. We have a wonderful relationship with LVEA. She shared that she will miss him, but looks forward to continued work with LVEA in the future.

Dr. Stepenosky was filled with appreciation and gratitude. He continued how exciting it will be to celebrate our middle school culminations and high school graduations this week. Dr. Stepenosky shared the success of both high school proms. He thanked and congratulated Dr. McClay and Ms. Exner for their fabulous work on those events. AHS went to Moorpark Country Club and CHS went to the Reagan Library. There were rave reviews from both parents and staff. Dr. Stepenosky shared that there were 160 student tutors this year. The Board and Cabinet issued a Proclamation for each of the AHS and CHS Student Tutors. He thanked them for their hard work. Dr. Stepenosky thanked Mr. Hochhaus for his advocacy for staff and his dedication. He congratulated Dr. Gleason on receiving his doctorate. His dissertation was on School Principal Retention in K-12 Schools. He hoped that all staff can get some time to relax over the summer. Next year will return to pre-pandemic times.

Dr. Finneran thanked all staff for all their hard work and shared that their work did not go unnoticed. The students will be better for this work. She thanked the retirees and wished them all success. She congratulated our 5th and 8th graders who will culminate on Wednesday and our 12th graders who will graduate on Thursday. All ceremonies will be live-streamed thanks to Mr. Klein and his team. Dr. Finneran said she has a 5th grade student culminating and a 12th grade student who will be going to UC Davis. She gave a shout-out to the IB Program. Her daughter was in that program and had a phenomenal year.

Ms. Falk shared that Special Ed has a lot to be proud of. Special Ed led the way in bringing students back on campus. She shared some pictures of staff members who were the first to be on campus back on October 5, 2020. All assessments were kept up to date. All current assessments have been completed as well through virtual IEP's, etc. The department taught virtual and in-person students together. She congratulated all Special Education staff. They really deserve a well rested summer.

Ms. Amodio recognized the Classified Return to work Committee participants: Angie Falk, Scott Foli, Melissa Foster, Jan Gil, Elaine Gottfried-Ullman, Laura McLane, Julie Pescetto and Mike Roberts. They worked hard this year and deserve the recognition. She thanked them for their efforts.

Ms. Kintz shared that Camp #LVLeads Summer School is ready to open June 14 to July 1, 2021 on the YB campus. This program will service incoming 1st through 5th grade students. There are 104 students currently signed up. She thanked Ms. Tina Johnson and Ms. Maureen McDonald for their quick turn around and organization of the program. She thanked Ms. Timbers for her quick work on ordering the supplies. There will be six teachers and five classified staff which were hired last week. Summer School will focus on the three themes; Character Building, Environment and Multicultural Music and Art.

Dr. Gleason shared that he along with Ms. Kimmel and Ms. Torres submitted two CTE grant proposals to the state for approximately \$500,000. If those are awarded, they will help our CTE programs. He also shared that we are currently recruiting for Center EdX PASC Cohort 8. The program continues to grow. The largest cohort of 20 candidates will start Fall 2021.

Dr. Scifres shared some athletic updates. He shared a slide from the CHS Baseball team 2nd round play-off game. The team won today 4-1 and will move on to the 3rd round of play-offs. Dr. Scifres gave a shout-out to all student athletes. They had a phenomenal season this year. The following teams made it to the play-offs: CHS Boys Soccer, CHS Girls Basketball, CHS Swim, CHS Boys and Girls Golf, CHS Track and Field, CHS Tennis (doubles), AHS Girls Basketball, AHS Boys Basketball, one AHS Golf athlete, and AHS Swim. This year was the first year we had competitive Stunt Cheer at both high schools. Dr. Scifres congratulated all student athletes and teams.

Ms. Kimmel echoed the gratitude going around tonight. She thanked her fellow Cabinet members and Board members for the incredible leadership this year. The maintenance, custodial and operation staff have gone above and beyond this year including setting up for culmination and graduation activities this week. There will be Grab-n-Go meals available this summer at A.E. Wright Middle School. The hours will be Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This will include breakfast and lunch. On Mondays, they will receive 2 bags of food and on Wednesdays, they will receive 3 bags of food. Ms. Kimmel shared gratitude for Mr. Hochhaus who is retiring this year. She also shared that today marks her 23rd anniversary working for LVUSD.

Mr. Klein shared that the tech team is proud to share in the excitement of the culminations this year at A.C. Stelle, A.E. Wright, and Lindero Canyon Middle School. They built a system where the families could log in and register their four guests. This system really helped with seat assignments. Streaming events from a distant field is very challenging which occurs at our middle schools. The team had to mount some equipment to help with the internet service in the field. The high schools have fast WiFi in their stadiums which make it easier. We are thrilled to bring all culminations to a live-stream to allow more family members to share in the joy.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were several in-person comments. The following individuals spoke about removing the mask mandate for children in school; Jenni Weinman, Tiffany Wilder, Amy Malizia, and Tammy Blomsterberg. Ms. Blomsterberg also spoke about not mandating vaccinations and that she was against CRT, Critical Race Theory. Mr. E.J. Jaymeson spoke about the Social Justice standards and asked for those to be removed from the curriculum.

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - A**

On motion of Ms. Stein, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda A, Items 1-9. Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

1. Approved Authorization to Make Appropriation Transfers for Year End as listed on the attached document.
2. Approved Warrants as listed on the attached document.
3. Approved Disposal of Surplus Property as listed on the attached document.
4. Approved Award of Bid - HVAC - Willow Elementary as listed on the attached document.
5. Approved Award of Bid - HVAC - Bay Laurel Elementary as listed on the attached document.
6. Approved Award of Bid - Fence Factory - Agoura High School as listed on the attached document.
7. Approved Award of Bid - Fence Factory - Lindero Canyon Middle School as listed on the attached document.
8. Approved Notice of Completion - Pacific Floor Company - A.E. Wright Middle School as listed on the attached document.
9. Approved Resolution No. 20-20 - Student Activity, Special Reserve Fund (GASB 84 Requirement) as listed on the attached document.

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - B**

On motion of Ms. Menges, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education approved Consent Agenda B, Item 1. Board Motion Carried 4:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: 0

1. Approved Personnel Document as listed on the attached document.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of Award of Contract to Spectrum Enterprise was presented. Mr. Klein shared that the Federal Government created the E-rate program to assist public schools with communication services. The program offers a discounted rate off the standard retail rate for eligible communication services to schools and libraries. In March the District published the RFP for e-rate wide area network connection services for all district campuses with a proposal due date of March

19, 2021. In response to the RFP, three proposals were received. Of the three vendors which submitted a proposal, Spectrum Enterprise scored the highest score (see attached e-rate bid evaluation worksheet). The deadline to sign the contract was a very tight window which is why this was not brought to the Board of Education sooner. Mr. Klein asked the Board to ratify the award of this contract.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education approved Award of Contract to Spectrum Enterprise.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

2. Approval of Resolution 19-20 Classified Layoff/Reduction in Hours was presented. Ms. Amodio shared that at the beginning of the pandemic, we had to increase hours for an Instructional Assistant P.E. to teach students in the virtual environment. Since we are going back to a traditional schedule in the fall, we do not need those additional hours.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Dr. Vadehra, the Board of Education approved Resolution 19-20 Classified Layoff/Reduction in Hours.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

3. Approval of Public Hearing - Local Control and Accountability was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Stein, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing - Local Control and Accountability.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing - Local Control and Accountability.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

4. Approval of Public Hearing - Budget 21-22 was presented.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education opened Public Hearing - Budget 21-22.

Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

Ms. Kimmel introduced Ms. Torres to present the 2021-22 Budget. Ms. Torres shared that it is important to note that this budget is unlike any budget in the past. The world is turning the corner on a global health crisis caused by COVID-19, triggering massive job losses and business closures. Despite these challenges, the state's revenues are projecting a \$75.7 billion surplus as the top 1% of California earners continue to generate considerable personal income taxes for the state and people continue to make purchases. The excess revenue combined with \$25 billion in federal relief supports a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to speed the state's recovery from the pandemic and to address inequities. The Governor's budget includes a total of \$121.7 billion in funding K-12, which is the highest in California history. LVUSD received several one-time grants totaling \$16.5 million. The grants all have specific allocations and timelines for use. Out of the \$16.5 million in grants, \$14.7 million was used in the 2020-21 budget, leaving \$1.8 million for the 2021-22 budget. Both LVEA and LVCA reached tentative agreements with the District and these agreements are included in the 2021-22 budget. This includes a certificated retro increase of 2%, totaling \$1.2 million and a \$700 one-time bonus for classified which totals \$0.4 million. Classified will also receive a 4% increase in salary. Ms. Torres continued that with the return to full time on campus instruction, there are some additional expenses such as, increased clerical staff at the secondary campuses, increased I.A.'s and campus supervisors at the elementary schools, filled vacancies at Buttercup, transportation and bus pass revenues, increased utilities usage, and gradual return to facility rentals over the next 2-3 years. The 2021-22 budget includes \$122.1 million in revenues and \$133 million in expenses for a net decrease of \$10.9 million. Out of this, \$6 million is related to strategic plan initiatives. Ms. Torres shared a slide showing LVUSD's declining enrollment. For the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years, the state has allowed our ADA funding to be based on

the 2019-20 school year numbers. This 2021-22 Budget will be brought to the Board at the June 22, 2021 Board meeting for formal approval.

On Motion of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Ms. Menges, the Board of Education closed Public Hearing - Budget 21-22. Board Motion Carried 5:0 as follows:

AYES: Board members Cutbill, Lawrence, Menges, Stein, and Vadehra

NAYES: None

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Approval of 2020-21 Budget Adjustment was presented. Ms. Kimmel shared that the 2020-21 Budget Revisions were presented during the previous item. At the next Board meeting on June 22, 2021, the 2020-21 Budget will be an action item to be voted on.

Ms. Stein asked if the Las Virgenes Independent School (LVIS) was included in next year's budget. Ms. Kimmel stated that she will update the budget to include LVIS.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Date Approved

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President, Board of Education