



BoardBriefs

INFORMATION FROM THE DECEMBER 19, 2024, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION REORGANIZATION



Board President Mr. Simon Wright



Board Vice President Ms. Maria Caceres



Board Clerk Rachael Robles

The Covina-Valley Unified School District Board of Education held its Annual Reorganization meeting, during which new officers were selected to lead the Board in the upcoming year. Mr. Simon Wright was named President, Ms. Maria Caceres was chosen as Vice President, and Mrs. Rachael Robles was selected as Clerk. The reorganization reflects the Board's commitment to advancing its mission, vision, and goals, ensuring strong leadership, and a unified focus on serving the district's students, families, and community.

BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOGNITION

NOVEMBER EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



Our amazing November Employees of the Month were recognized at the Board meeting. These outstanding individuals were honored for their dedication and contributions to our schools, making a lasting impact on our students and community. Their hard work and commitment exemplify the values and mission of the district, inspiring excellence in education. We are proud to celebrate these exceptional team members who go above and beyond to support student success and foster a thriving school environment.

DR. MICHELE DOLL, LACOE CABINET MEMBER OF THE YEAR



Dr. Michele Doll, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services for Covina-Valley Unified School District, has been honored as the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Cabinet Member of the Year for Human Resources. This prestigious recognition highlights Dr. Doll's exceptional leadership, dedication, and impactful contributions to human resources in education. Her commitment to fostering a positive and inclusive work environment has significantly benefited both staff and students across the district.

FALL SPORTS



The Covina-Valley Unified School District Board of Education proudly recognized its outstanding Fall Sports Athletes. These talented students, representing cross country, football, girls' golf, girls' tennis, girls' volleyball, and girls' flag football, were celebrated for their dedication, teamwork, and exceptional performance during the fall season. The Board commended these athletes for their accomplishments and for bringing pride to their schools and the community.

MRS. RYAN PRICE NAMED PRINCIPAL OF BEN LOMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Congratulations to Mrs. Ryan Price on being named the Principal of Ben Lomond Elementary School! A long-time administrator in Covina-Valley Unified School District, Mrs. Price has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication throughout her career. As the interim principal at Ben Lomond this year, she has already made a positive impact on the school community, fostering a supportive and enriching environment for students and staff. We are excited to see her continued success and contributions in this well-deserved role.

PRESENTATIONS

First Interim Budget Report

[\(click the link to view the full presentation\)](#)

The Covina-Valley Unified School District has received a positive certification on its first interim budget, demonstrating its sound fiscal health and effective financial management. This certification reflects the district's ability to meet its financial obligations for the current and subsequent two fiscal years. The recognition underscores the district's commitment to maintaining fiscal stability while prioritizing resources that support student success, staff development, and program excellence.

2023-24 Audit Reports

[\(click the link to view the full presentation\)](#)

The Covina-Valley Unified School District received unmodified opinions on its financial statements, federal awards, and state awards for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The audit reported no findings or questioned costs in the financial statements, federal programs, or state compliance, reflecting the district's strong fiscal management and adherence to regulatory requirements.

HIGHLIGHTS

Facilities Needs Discussion

The Board of Education discussed several facility improvements. Topics included installing lights at high school football fields, starting with Northview High, to support new sports like flag football and the later high school start times. The Board also discussed the need for HVAC systems in school kitchens, beginning at Covina High, due to its four meal services producing over 1,000 more meals daily than the other school kitchens. Additionally, shade structures at Manzanita Elementary and enhanced security at the District Office, including fencing, were discussed. [\(click the link to view the presentation\)](#)

Retirement Notification Incentive

The Board approved a one-time off-schedule payment of 1% of base salary for employees who submit their retirement notification in writing to the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services by 4:00 p.m. on February 14, 2025. Retirement must be effective on or before August 11, 2025.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Simon Wright reflected on the year's achievements and shared his excitement for the future. He highlighted the CSBA conference as a valuable experience. He thanked his fellow Board members for their dedication during the Oath of Office Ceremony. He praised the launch of the aviation pathway this spring. The program features state-of-the-art technology, dual enrollment with Mt. San Antonio College, and potential partnerships with Loyola Marymount University. Mr. Wright looks forward to enhancing opportunities for students, supporting staff, and strengthening the district in the new year.

[Click here to hear Mr. Wright's comments starting at 1:45:08](#)

Maria M. Caceres expressed her gratitude for the dedicated Directors and Cabinet, acknowledging their great work. She shared her honor in being reelected and serving the community. She congratulated Dr. Cruz and Mrs. Maulucci on their achievements. Ms. Caceres highlighted the value of attending the CSBA conference to explore ways to expand CTE and Dual Enrollment. She also congratulated Covina High School on their Golden Bell award. Finally, she thanked Covina High School for the wonderful Colt Christmas celebration.

[Click here to hear Ms. Caceres' comments starting at 1:43:30](#)

Rachael Robles congratulated fall sports participants, highlighting their importance in students' lives. She visited LEAP classrooms and attended a parent meeting to foster open communication. She thanked Danielle Walker for facilitating these efforts. Mrs. Robles celebrated Covina High School's Golden Bell award at the CSBA conference. She enjoyed the Colt Christmas Holiday Spirit and the heartwarming DHH Christmas Program. She also attended the ATP Graduation and Talent Show, a proud moment for the students. Mrs. Robles wished everyone a joyful and restful holiday break.

[Click here to hear Mrs. Robles' comments starting at 1:39:21](#)

Dr. Maria E. Cruz congratulated Mr. Wright, as well as Ms. Caceres and Mrs. Robles on their selection as Board of Education Officers. She thanked district staff for organizing the Oath of Office Ceremony and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to share the special moment with family and friends.

[Click here to hear Dr. Cruz's comments starting at 1:38:38](#)

Sue Maulucci shared her gratitude to Camille for the beautiful poem and extended congratulations to Winter Sports athletes and student Board members Karyme and Gianna. She congratulated new Board President Wright, Ms. Caceres, and Mrs. Robles. She expressed her joy in attending the Christmas Parade. She highlighted the inspiration and ideas gained from the CSBA conference and that it was great to attend with a fantastic team. Mrs. Maulucci wished everyone a Merry Christmas!

[Click here to hear Mrs. Maulucci's comments starting at 1:37:11](#)

Jocelyn Melena thanked Camille for leading the pledge and shared her love for her school. She gave a shout-out to the NHS custodian for maintaining the restrooms. She mentioned she is surveying NHS and Las Palmas to get their perspective. Ms. Melena also recognized teachers Joy Gaspy and Christy Thiel for their organizing holiday giving at Las Palmas. She shared her great experience at CSBA, advocating for all students.

[Click here to hear Ms. Melena's comments starting at 1:48:37](#)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



Camille Jorin, a 5th-grade student at Rowland Avenue Elementary, proudly led the flag salute at the meeting. Camille was recently featured in the Superintendent's Update Video, where she showcased her enthusiasm and leadership, representing her school and peers with pride.



THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING IS ON JANUARY 9, 2025

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