

**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805**

June 24, 2009

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Audrey Miles called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Miles called the Public Session to order at 6:50 PM.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

President Miles led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

President Miles offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting.

B.3 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Audrey Miles, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

Staff Present: Joe Abrego, Executive Director, Information and Technology; Leticia Mejia, Interpreter; Andre Bell, Senior Director Bond Finance; Pamala Blake, Director of Adult and Alternative Education; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Lisa Erwin, Executive Director Business Services; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Erin Fleming, Director Classified Employees; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Linda Jackson, Executive Director; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Supervisor; Emily Millar, Director Employee Relations; Raul Ramirez, Principal of Adult Education; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Vince Rhea, Executive Director; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Phyllis Rosen, Legal Assistant; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer; Liz Torio, Director Academic Intervention, After-School Programs, Promotion-Retention; Marin Trujillo, Coordinator Community Engagement.

B.4 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel nine (9) students and suspend those expulsions for placement within the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel nine (9) students and suspend those expulsions for placement within the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, and President Miles voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond abstaining and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve the administrative appointment for Principals and Instructional Specialists, to rescind previous reassignment notices to Principals and to transfer a number of Principals.

Subsequently, the following appointments were noted:

Ramona Stokes - Principal Bayview
Jessica Smith - Principal Chavez
Sonja Bell - Principal Sheldon
Jamersina Preston - IS at DeJean
Latoya Williams - IS DeAnza
Debbie Narasaki - IS at Lake (Interim)
Harlan Kerr - Principal Vista Hills and Coordinator Ed Services
Hadee Foust - Principal North
Christina McCoy - AP at North / Harbour Way
Terry Ismael - AP Hercules
David Luongo - AP Kennedy
Hector Franco-Marina - AP at Pinole Valley
Eless Baptiste - VP at Helms
James Ellis - IS at Helms

Instructional Specialists:

Jennifer Bender - RHS
Sewellyn Kaplan - PVHS
Humphrey Kiuruwi - ECHS
Christina Lambie - Bayview
Tracie Manipis - Dover
David Ranch - Downer
Lyda Butler - King
Darlene Almeida - Lincoln
Kim Moses - Nystrom

The Board rescinded the notice of reassignments for AP:

Yolanda Bulls - DAHS
Gabriel Chilcott - PVHS
Jose DeLeon - RHS
Nancy Ivey - RHS
Carolyn Mosley - HHS
LaDonna Williams - HHS
Jennifer Crowell - Interim PA at Middle College
Matt Burham - Portola
Sylvia Greenwood - Crespi
Pat Martin - DeJean
Jerrold Scheidt - Pinole Middle

Other Admin – Coordinator:

Susan Dunlap
Rene Franklin
Marilyn Potter
Brenda King-Randel
Janice Thompson

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve the administrative appointment for Principals and Instructional Specialists, to rescind previous reassignment notices to Principals and to transfer a number of Principals. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to amend the agenda by placing Items E.1 and E.4 to follow D.1 and approve as amended. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

Public Comment: Kathleen Erwin

B.6 Minutes: June 3, 2009; June 6, 2009

Mr. Thurmond requested to amend the minutes of June 6, 2009, to reflect that Jill Wolkenfeld attended.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve the minutes of June 3 and June 6, 2009, as amended by Mr. Thurmond. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Contracted Services

C.2 Grants/Awards/Agreements

C.3 Acceptance of Donations

C.4 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.5 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

- C.6 Agreements for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services**
- C.7 Community Budget Advisory Member Ratification**
- C.8 Certificated Personnel Changes**
Moved to follow Section E.
- C.9 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
This item was amended to reflect a change in the Fiscal Impact as follows (*in italics*):
Total for this action: *\$154,575.*
- C.10 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.11 Approval of Architect Selection and Award of Contract for Coronado Elementary Programming and Master Planning**
- C.12 Coronado Elementary Fence & Gates Replacement Emergency Repair Program Contract Award**
- C.13 Coronado Elementary Interior Windows, Abatement, Trim Emergency Repair Program Contract Award**
- C.14 Crespi Fire Reconstruction Construction Management Services Award of Contract**
Moved to follow Section E.
- C.15 Verde Elementary Sitework Playground Renovations Project Award of Contract**
- C.16 School Consolidation Moving Services Contract Awards**
- C.17 Revised Board Policy BP 6164.6 – Identification and Education Under Section 504**
- C.18 Approval of Board Member to Attend California Latino School Boards Association (CLSBA) Conference**
Moved to follow Section E.
- C.19 Resolution 98-0809 in Support of 55% Parcel Tax Threshold**
Moved to follow Section E.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar, Items C.1 through C.7, C.10 through C.13, C.15 through C.17, and Item C.9 as amended. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

- D.1 Recognition of Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Nick Ortega**
Superintendent Harter recognized Eagle Scout Nick Ortega for his accomplishments and in particular for his project of redoing the entry way at Ohlone Elementary School, and awarded him with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Board. Mr. Ortega expressed thanks to many individuals and groups for their contributions.

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey congratulated Mr. Ortega and recognized his contribution to the Ivy League program. Ms. Kronenberg extended congratulations and spoke about Mr. Ortega being a model to others in every way. Mr. Thurmond thanked Mr. Ortega for his service and said he set a great example of doing well. Mr. Medrano thanked Mr. Ortega for his community service and for setting an example to other students. President Miles wished Mr. Ortega the best of luck at BYU and continuing to work in volunteering.

- E.1 Request to Address the Board – Support for the WCCUSD Adult Education Program**
Kristen Pursley, representing Communities Organized to Save Adult Education, gave a presentation regarding the services, benefits and accomplishments of Adult Education.

Public Comment: Ruth Salazar, Janet Johnson, Phanh Chiayasith, Antonia Jackson, Karen Wilairat, Christina Tworek, Patricia Orneias, Cecilia Orneias, Al Kirkman, Douglas Guilbert, Toni Favila.

- E.4 PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**
(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

Public Comment: Al Kirkman, Eduardo Martinez, Jo Scherich, Joanna Pace, Kathleen Erwin

- D.2 Measure J Bond Sale Update**
Andre Bell, Senior Director Bond Finance, provided a presentation and update regarding the District's progress selling bonds through the Measure J project. Mr. Bell introduced Dave Olson and Joanne Braun, financial advisors from KNN, who were available to respond to questions.

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey thanked Mr. Medrano for emphasizing the need for minority involvement and congratulated the team for considering the needs of the community.

Mr. Medrano said he was pleased to see that the team selected is from the local area.

Ms. Kronenberg said this sets the precedent for going forward in securing our professional services and valuing local participation.

D.3 Standing Reports

Community Budget Advisory Committee: Charles Cowens announced the next meeting will be held on July 23. He spoke about fulfilling the Committee's recommendation of reestablishing a budget subcommittee with two voting board members.

Public Employees Local One: Richard Leung spoke against the proposed cuts to benefits saying that those affected were least able to afford them. He asked the District to work with Local One to look for other ways to achieve costs savings.

Academic Subcommittee Report: Nia Rashidchi provided an update on *Richmond Tales – Lost Secrets of the Iron Triangle*, this year's Science Fair, and changes being implemented to improve curriculum and instruction. Wendell Greer provided an update on the Mentoring and Multiple Pathways programs.

Board Comment:

President Miles asked Mr. Greer to state the other stakeholders and public officials involved with Multiple Pathways. Mr. Greer responded.

Mr. Thurmond congratulated the team that worked on the Pathways grant, worth \$1 million. He inquired about the status of the proposed resolution to formalize the District's involvement in the mentoring campaign.

Mr. Thurmond suggested that Board Members serving on the Academic Subcommittee take this opportunity to ask questions. He also asked that the Mentoring Program resolution be brought to the Board for approval immediately following the Subcommittee's finalization. President Miles asked Mr. Greer to speak about a timeline for the resolution. Mr. Greer responded.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the Academic Subcommittee's discussions on the mentoring item with regard to financial restrictions and the use of staff time. She said Mr. Greer was asked to come back with a detailed process that would prove successful and that would also clarify the difference between mentoring and volunteering.

Mr. Thurmond urged the committee to move swiftly and added that costs were being borne by other agencies.

Ms. Miles spoke about the need for program stability where the safety of students is concerned.

Ivy League Connection: Mr. Ramsey provided an update on activities of the Ivy League program and the Say Yes to Education Funding program.

Facilities Subcommittee: Mr. Medrano provided an overview of the committee meeting held on June 10, and announced the next meeting will be held on July 22. Mr. Ramsey provided additional comments.

Safety Committee: Mr. Thurmond said that the previous meeting included representatives from all police departments participating in the District's SRO program. He reported that steps are being taken to improve protocols on safety and streamlining communication among police, campus site supervisors and families. He announced the next Safety Subcommittee meeting to be held on July 22, and said the Youth Commission Planning Committee will meet again July 1st.

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano asked whether all the police departments were able to communicate directly with one another.

Mr. Thurmond affirmed this capability for the five cities in WCCUSD. Mr. Ramsey commented that the County Sheriff's deputies were on a different system.

C.8 Certificated Personnel Changes

Public Comment: None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approval of Item C.8. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.14 Crespi Fire Reconstruction Construction Management Services Award of Contract

Public Comment: Doug Barrows of McCarthy Building Company asked the Board to reconsider the decision of the Facilities Subcommittee that initially selected then rejected his bid for this project.

Board Comment: Mr. Ramsey clarified that this was not a bond project but a claim for fire damage that mistakenly went through the bidding process and subsequently handled through the District's insurance administrators panel.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve Item C.14. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.18 Approval of Board Member to Attend California Latino School Boards Association (CLSBA) Conference

Public Comment: Al Kirkman spoke against spending District funds for continuing education of Board members.

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey spoke about the importance of Board members attending conferences.

Mr. Thurmond spoke in agreement with Mr. Ramsey and for Board members obtaining and bringing back useful information.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about approving the budgeted amount of \$750.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve Item C.18. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.19 Resolution 98-0809 in Support of 55% Parcel Tax Threshold

Public Comment: Al Kirkman spoke against this resolution.

Board Comment:

Superintendent Harter explained that this resolution is a request from the California School Boards Association and that although the District has been successful in passing parcel taxes at the current level, it is beyond the realm of possibility for many districts in California.

Mr. Ramsey commented that the 2/3 requirement is "blatantly unfair" and that he supports this resolution.

Mr. Medrano spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke in favor of the resolution and said this is one of a few things the Board can do to fix the budget problem.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved to approve Item C.19. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

E.2 Request to Address the Board – Growing West County School Gardens

Graciella Rossi presented information about the Growing West County School Gardens, which she said consisted of about 60 teachers, parents and community members from about 20 different schools in West Contra Costa County. She spoke about the benefits of being actively involved in school gardens and getting students more involved in science and language arts through gardening.

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond thanked Ms. Rossi for her work and asked whether this program had the ability to support the needs of our community. Joanna Pace, a member of Growing West County School Gardens, responded.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about her visit to the program at Richmond High School and how it relates to Multiple Pathways.

Mr. Medrano extended his appreciation for the garden and the presentation and said he applauded the work.

Ms. Miles spoke about her experience working with school gardens and the importance of having children work with their hands.

E.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2009-10 Budget

Ms. Gamba presented an overview of the proposed 2009-10 budget commenting on the unprecedented economic times in our nation and state. She said the District's response has been excellent in working toward a balanced budget and closing the budget gap as it stood prior to the May Revise, but that the District is still facing a huge setback based upon the May 19 ballot initiative failure. She summarized the plan for fiscal recovery in light of the 08-09 fund balances and reductions in revenue limits by the state. She requested that the Board open a public hearing and move to adopt the 2009-10 budget.

President Miles opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: Charles Cowens, Eduardo Martinez, Malaika Parker

President Miles closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond asked for discussion about the impact of the budget regarding changes to class size reduction, restrictions being placed on Adult Education, and schools now open as a result of funding provided by the cities of Richmond and San Pablo. Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Thurmond asked for the information to be restated publicly. Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Thurmond inquired about the schools listed on the closure list for 2010-11 which are suspended pending additional funding. Ms. Gamba referenced the board resolution that pertains to school closures.

Mr. Thurmond asked for an amendment to the resolution that identified which schools would be closed in 2010-11, allowing the schools to remain unnamed at this time.

Mr. Ramsey said there was a need to adopt the budget at this time, and that the schools designated for closure in 2010-11 could be reevaluated at a later date.

Mr. Medrano inquired whether Kennedy High School, if closed, would become an education center in 2010-11. Ms. Gamba responded.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about San Pablo and Richmond predicating their decisions for funding on the designation of schools, and she did not agree to change the resolution which she said would violate the Board's relationships with the cities.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about sending a message that was not a predetermined decision that identified specific schools, that would leave options open.

Mr. Ramsey said the budget was predicated on the cities identifying what schools they are funding and that could not be removed at this time.

Mr. Medrano said he saw no reason to modify his motion.

Mr. Thurmond made an alternative motion to delay the vote on the budget using the June 30 deadline to give negotiations a final deadline to come to some resolution and closure.

Mr. Thurmond's motion failed for lack of a second.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to approve Item F.1 Adoption of the 2009-10 Budget. Mr. Ramsey seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey and President Miles voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

F.2 Presentation, Public Hearing and Adoption of West Contra Costa Unified School District's Initial Bargaining Proposal to Public Employees, Local One for 2009-2010

Ms. Romeo introduced the initial proposal for classified employees, explaining that action on this item is basically the first step in allowing negotiations to move forward for the 2009-10 school year. She asked the Board President to open a public hearing and once completed asked the Board to adopt the initial proposal.

President Miles opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: Eduardo Martinez

President Miles closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond asked for a public statement from staff identifying the terms in the initial proposal. Ms. Romeo read the list of articles being opened for negotiation out loud.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve Item F.2 Adoption of WCCUSD’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to Public Employees, Local One for 2009-10. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.3 Presentation, Public Hearing and Adoption of West Contra Costa Unified School District’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to School Supervisors Association for 2009-2010

Ms. Romeo introduced the initial proposal for the classified supervisors for the 2009-10 school year and read out loud the articles being opened for negotiation. She asked the Board President to open a public hearing and thereafter adopt the initial proposal.

President Miles opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: None

President Miles closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve Item F.3 Adoption of WCCUSD’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to School Supervisors Association for 2009-10. Mr. Medrano seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.4 Presentation, Public Hearing and Adoption of West Contra Costa Unified School District’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to United Teachers of Richmond for 2009-2010

Ms. Romeo introduced the initial proposal for the United Teachers of Richmond for the 2009-10 school year and read out loud the articles being opened for negotiation. She asked the Board President to open a public hearing and thereafter adopt the initial proposal.

President Miles opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: Eduardo Martinez

President Miles closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve Item F.4 Adoption of WCCUSD’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to United Teachers of Richmond for 2009-10. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.5 Presentation, Public Hearing and Adoption of West Contra Costa Unified School District’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to West Contra Costa Administrator’s Association for 2009-2010

Ms. Romeo introduced the initial proposal for the West Contra Costa Administrator’s Association (WCCAA) for the 2009-10 school year and read out loud the articles being opened for negotiation. She asked the Board President to open a public hearing and thereafter adopt the initial proposal.

President Miles opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: None

President Miles closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to approve Item F.5 Adoption of WCCUSD’s Initial Bargaining Proposal to WCCAA for 2009-10. Mr. Ramsey seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.6 Exploration of Local Funding Options

Superintendent Harter introduced this item indicating that the only option for school districts that want to be fully funded is to take the initiative to do it locally. He recommended the Board appoint a two-member committee to begin exploration by looking for a parcel tax consultant and authorize the issuance for a request for qualifications.

Public Comment: Eduardo Martinez, Jim Rogers

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey recommended Mr. Medrano and Ms. Kronenberg as representatives to the parcel tax subcommittee. He asked Mr. Rogers whether Richmond City Council members were willing to work in collaboration with the District regarding polling and strategies. Mr. Rogers indicated yes.

Mr. Thurmond inquired whether the Richmond City Council had determined the type of tax it would be pursuing in 2010. Mr. Rogers indicated there was no decision yet and spoke about the success of non parcel tax efforts in the past. Mr. Thurmond asked for clarification. Mr. Rogers said he is suggesting that the Council would have a Save Our Schools Citizens' initiative in June 2010 within the boundaries of the City of Richmond only.

President Miles commented on the preliminary discussions that have already occurred with Board Members and the Richmond City Council and plans to continue the process with the City of Richmond. She thanked Mr. Rogers for his commitment to the students.

Mr. Thurmond asked Board Members about their level of commitment towards both a District Parcel Tax and Save Our Schools initiative. President Miles responded.

Mr. Ramsey spoke in favor of embracing the support from the City of Richmond.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about the Board making a public statement of intention to support both measures.

Mr. Ramsey discussed the City of Richmond taxes and fees that are currently in place.

Ms. Kronenberg said it would be her intent to put the City of Richmond initiative and the District's parcel tax together. She spoke about the idea of neighborhood schools in Richmond being in alignment with both initiatives.

Mr. Medrano said he supports both measures and expressed his full commitment to work to support both communities.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to appoint Mr. Medrano and Ms. Kronenberg to a Parcel Tax Committee and authorize the issuance of a request for qualifications for a parcel tax consultant. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.7 Resolution No. 96-0809: Authorization to Eliminate Classified Positions and Layoff Classified Employees, After-School Programs

Ms. Romeo asked the Board to authorize the elimination of After-School Program Supervisors, and noted a revision to the précis backup in the board packet which reduced the number from 6.40 to 4.2 FTE. She said the main funding for these positions, a 21st Century Grant, was not renewed for next year and so there is a lack of funding to continue the District's program at Highland, King, Lincoln and Nystrom Elementary schools. She asked the Board to adopt the resolution to eliminate classified services based on lack of funds or lack of work.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond inquired about plans to provide similar after school coordinators and asked for information for the timeline to obtain the funding that would restore the programs.

Ms. Rashidchi said there will be after school programs at these four sites supplied by community based organizations. She added she will be applying aggressively for any funding that becomes available at the state and federal level.

Mr. Thurmond asked about the timeline to renew the 21st Century grant.

Liz Torio clarified that the next cycle would be the end of December. Ms. Rashidchi confirmed that the grant had been rejected.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Item F.7 Resolution 96-0809 Authorization to Eliminate Classified Positions and Layoff Classified Employees, After-School Programs as revised. Mr. Medrano seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey and President Miles voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions and Ms. Kronenberg absent. Motion carried 3-1-0-1.

F.8 Resolution No. 97-0809: Resolution to Decrease the Number of Certificated Employees Due to a Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services

Ms. Romeo noted a revised précis and backup has been provided. She said that pursuant to the Ed. Code §44955.5, the Board is authorized to take action to decrease the number of probationary or certificated employees by August 15, if it determines that its total revenue limit per ADA has not increased by at least 2%, and indicated this is the case per the 2009-10 adopted budget. She explained the rationale for the removal of counselors, the decreased number due to attrition and the elimination of one vice principal. Ms. Romeo asked the Board to adopt this revised resolution with a total FTE of 11.66.

Public Comment: Pixie Hayward-Schickele

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Item F.8 Resolution 97-0809: Resolution to Decrease the Number of Certificated Employees Due to a Reduction in Particular Kinds of Services, as revised. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey and President Miles voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

F.9 District Data Warehouse System and Services

Mr. Fay introduced this item and clarified how the system will pool 13 different operational and business systems that currently stand alone, enable queries and interface on day-to-day operations, and reduce staff time obtaining reports.

Public Comment: None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Item F.9 District Data Warehouse System and Services. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond and President Miles voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.10 Consolidation of Adult Education Administration

Mr. Greer asked the Board to consider the consolidation of the Adult Education program with a proposed cut back of approximately 25% that would service the Adult Education population at Alvarado and other existing school sites throughout the District.

Public Comment: Pixie Hayward-Schickele, Kristen Pursley, Antonia Jackson, Douglas Guilbert, Ken Ryan

Board Comment:

Ms. Kronenberg asked about plans to move the computer labs and whether students-especially ESL students-were surveyed. Mr. Ramirez said he spoke to a random selection of students and received varied responses.

Mr. Kronenberg asked where the students who attended Serra lived, about the GED and high school diploma classes, and where the 25% cut was coming from. Mr. Ramirez responded.

Ms. Kronenberg asked about the importance of the location and whether accessibility to other campuses could make up for the lack of the Serra campus. Mr. Ramirez said that due to several factors, he was unable to predict how attendance would be affected.

Mr. Medrano inquired about the number in attendance at Alvarado. Mr. Ramirez said approximately 1,464 attended during this past year and that historically Serra has had the largest number of fee based classes.

Mr. Medrano inquired whether Serra's attendees were from low income areas and about bus lines to Alvarado. Mr. Ramirez responded.

Mr. Thurmond asked about the proposed savings of \$85,000, whether personnel or operational. Mr. Ramirez responded primarily operational. Ms. Romeo responded regarding the prior elimination of Adult Education positions. Mr. Thurmond asked what would become of the Serra campus.

Superintendent Harter indicated it would become part of the District's surplus property. He said that although there is currently no specific plan in progress, the District must sell some properties to pay down the debt.

Mr. Thurmond inquired whether Alvarado is considered a "permanent" site and whether Adult Education could end up on the Kennedy High School site.

Superintendent Harter said that depending on the funding from City of Richmond the intent would be to stay longer at Alvarado. However, if the funding is not available, the plan is to move Adult Education to a Kennedy Education Center at Kennedy High School.

Mr. Thurmond said his hope is that Kennedy High School will stay open but that if necessary, the District should look for space at all other facilities including Contra Costa College.

Mr. Ramsey said he does not support this item and proposed revisiting the idea next year when there will be more information to make a better value assessment.

President Miles asked Ms. Gamba whether any portion of the \$85,000 savings was included in the 09-10 budget just passed. Ms. Gamba responded that it included the staffing reductions only, and if not approved staff will need to determine how to operate two campuses within the budget that has been adopted.

Mr. Ramsey proposed tabling this item.

Mr. Medrano said he favored working out something within the present budget reductions and bringing this item back next year. He said there was insufficient data regarding transportation to make a decision.

Ms. Kronenberg said she agrees with Mr. Medrano and Mr. Ramsey. She said Adult Education needs to look at alternatives if Serra is closed and have different conversations with students.

Ms. Romeo offered clarification.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to table this item.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Agenda Setting Process

Superintendent Harter introduced this item at the request of the Board President and Clerk to continue the conversation about agenda setting that was scheduled at the last retreat. He opened the discussion to include the role subcommittees play, how can a board member who does not serve on a subcommittee participate and review an item without violating the Brown Act, what level of planning does the Board want for its new initiatives and what kind of detailed plans do we need.

Public Comment: Jill Wolkenfeld, Eduardo Martinez, Charles Cowens

Mr. Ramsey said he felt that the established norms and process works and that going through a subcommittee allowed for depth, full staff review, objectivity and discussion.

Mr. Medrano asked about past practice of Board members to speak at a subcommittee they are not assigned to.

Ms. Romeo said the Board member can be present, but cannot participate, even if only one of the two assigned members is present.

Ms. Kronenberg said that the subcommittee is a powerful tool to have information vetted and said it is very useful to attend a meeting and learn. She suggested an additional provision to allow for emergency situations.

Mr. Ramsey spoke about protocols that are already in place to deal with emergency situations.

Mr. Thurmond said he was waiting for a response about two items he has introduced for consideration: The Employee Free Choice resolution and an item to expedite the bidding of all projects. He commented on the current committee structure preventing the resolution's author from answering questions, and said that a subcommittee vote should not preclude an item for consideration by the Board. He spoke in favor of a committee or process where fiscal expenditures of the District get vetted every two weeks.

President Miles directed questions to Mr. Greer regarding communications with Mr. Thurmond. Mr. Greer and Mr. Thurmond responded.

President Miles asked Ms. Romeo to distinguish between a resolution and an action item. Ms. Romeo responded.

President Miles spoke to Mr. Thurmond about an item before the Safety Committee, indicating there had not been sufficient information and backup, and asked Mr. Greer to provide Mr. Thurmond with an update.

President Miles said that she never declines any Board member who wants to bring an item on the agenda, but that it needs backup information if it is an action item for approval.

Mr. Thurmond said he had not heard back regarding the Employee Free Choice act resolution item he proposed.

President Miles suggested an additional workshop to discuss how resolutions are presented.

Mr. Ramsey responded to Mr. Thurmond's comments on the accelerated process for projects indicating a resolution was not needed because projects have been accelerated and the intent was acted upon.

Mr. Medrano said he perceived this as a failure of communication and extended an apology to Mr. Thurmond.

Mr. Thurmond said he appreciated the acknowledgement.

President Miles asked Mr. Thurmond to resend the free choice resolution and commented on the need for follow up from everyone involved. She spoke about the difference between an action item and a resolution and suggested rereading the pertinent bylaw.

Mr. Thurmond commented on his communication with Mr. Greer and said he appreciated the openness of this conversation.

G.2 Status Reports – Facilities Planning and Construction

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

H. UNFINISHED REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD (continued from Item E)

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

None

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – July 8, 2009

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Miles adjourned the meeting at 11:35 PM.

Motion vote count order: Yes-No-Abstain-Absent

BH:pr