

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

March 16, 2011

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

Clerk Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. Clerk Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:34 PM.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk Kronenberg led the pledge of allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

Clerk Kronenberg offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting.

B.3 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Elaine Merriweather, Tony Thurmond

Board Members Absent: Charles Ramsey

Staff Present: Joe Abrego, Director; Ora Anderson, Special Ed Director; André Bell, Director; Linda Cohen, Principal; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Rosa Cornejo, Staff Secretary; Susan Dunlap, Coordinator, Ed Services; Otilia Espinosa, Interpreter; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Josh Herrera, Electronics Technician; Sue Khan, Principal; David Luongo, Assistant Principal; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Supervisor; Lyn Potter, Director Categorical & Instructional Support Services; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jeannette Ramirez, Principal; Ann Reinhausen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer; Marin Trujillo, Coordinator Community Engagement

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Hercules Middle High School

Mr. Andrew Gabriel provided a report of activities at Hercules Middle High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the recommendations of March 16, 2011 for expulsion cases #001, #002, #003, #004 and #005.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the recommendations of March 16, 2011 for expulsion cases #001, #002, #003, #004 and #005. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond abstaining, and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 3-0-1-1.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Medrano requested moving items C.16 and C.10 to follow item B.7. Mr. Medrano moved approval of the agenda with those changes. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.7 Minutes: January 25, 2011; February 16, 2011; February 23, 2011; March 2, 2011

MOTION: Ms. Medrano moved approval of the minutes of January 25, 2011; February 16, 2011; February 23, 2011 and March 2, 2011. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

- C.16 Resolution No. 59-1011: Day of Recognition for César Chávez, March 31, 2011**
Students from Chávez Elementary and Pinole Valley High gave performances honoring César Chávez.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
Board members commended the students on their presentation.

MOTION: Ms. Merriweather moved approval of Consent Item C.16: Resolution No. 59-1011: Day of Recognition for César Chávez, March 31, 2011. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

- C.10 Coronado Elementary Architectural Services Bidding, Construction Administration, and Closeout Services Approval**

Public Speakers
Linda Cohen

Board Comments
Mr. Medrano spoke about the health and dental clinic at Coronado.

MOTION: Ms. Merriweather moved approval of Consent Item C.10: Coronado Elementary Architectural Services Bidding, Construction Administration, and Closeout Services Approval. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

- C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements**
C.2 Acceptance of Donations
C.3 Approval of Fund Raising Activities
C.4 Contracted Services
C.5 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports
C.6 Notification of Claims Rejected
C.7 Resolution No. 58-1011: Directing Preparation of Annual Report - MRAD
C.8 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)
C.9 Memorandum of Understanding with Solano County Office of Education
C.10 Coronado Elementary Architectural Services Bidding, Construction Administration, and Closeout Services Approval
This item was moved to follow B.7.
C.11 Lupine Hills and Verde Restroom Surface Repairs Projects Change Order Approval
C.12 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts
C.13 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders
C.14 Study Trip by students from Bayview and Grant Elementary to New York City for a poetry contest, April 9-12, 2011
C.15 Purchase “Destiny Textbook and Library Management Software” from Follett Software Company
C.16 Resolution No. 59-1011: Day of Recognition for César Chávez, March 31,
This item was moved to follow B.7.

MOTION: Ms. Merriweather moved approval of Consent Items C.1- C.9 and C.11-C.15. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 West Contra Costa Retired Educators Scholarship Program

Superintendent Harter introduced Ms. Toni Oklan-Arko. Ms. Oklan-Arko gave a brief history of the scholarship program and how the retired teachers put this program together for the District students.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond thanked the retired teachers for helping the students to seek a higher education.
Mr. Medrano and Mr. Gabriel thanked the retired teachers for their generosity.

D.2 Recognition of Tyler Hester

Mr. Greer introduced Mr. Hester. Ms. Hester talked about how he started the book drive at Leadership Public Schools and the importance of reading. Mr. Greer presented Mr. Hester with a certificate of appreciation.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members thanked Mr. Hester for his work on behalf of students.

D.3 In Appreciation of Contra Costa Interfaith Supporting Community Organization (CCISCO) and *Be A Mentor, Inc.* for working collaboratively with WCCUSD to develop a mentoring program to serve the youth of John F. Kennedy High School

Mr. Greer introduced Ms. Sheila Gibson. Ms. Gibson, member of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, spoke about how *Be a Mentor* began. Mr. Bob Goetsch spoke on the importance of the mentor program. Ms. Davis, *Be a Mentor* facilitator, thanked CCISCO for funding the program at Kennedy.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano thanked everyone for the efforts of the church and CCISCO.
Mr. Gabriel commended them on their work.
Ms. Merriweather applauded them on their wonderful idea.
Ms. Kronenberg said she felt that the effort put into this program is enormous. She commended their commitment.
Mr. Thurmond spoke of the importance of mentorship to youth. He also asked if there can be leverage between government agencies in joining this program.
Ms. Kronenberg asked for clarification from Mr. Thurmond saying she will look into talking to the communities.

D.4 Report Update TDAP – Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Vaccine Booster Requirement

Mr. Greer gave a presentation on TDAP. He shared the District efforts in communicating to the parents the need of the booster vaccine. About 8,000 students affected in the District secondary schools will be served by a collaborative effort with the county health department.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano asked if vaccines at the health centers would be free of charge. Mr. Greer confirmed.
Ms. Merriweather asked if students can self refer or if they need to be accompanied by a parent. Mr. Greer responded.

D.5 Richmond Association of School Administrators (RASA) Award Winners

Mr. Collins presented the winners of the RASA awards.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members thanked the winners for their service to the District and students.

D.6 Standing Reports

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi gave an update of the last meeting where discussion included the KEYS survey training at the District principals' meeting.

School Supervisors Association. Sandra Falk, on behalf of the SSA, thanked Superintendent Harter and Human Resources Administrators for facilitating training to all SSA members.

United Teachers of Richmond. President Diane Brown gave a presentation on UTR's proposed summer school program. She talked about implementation using the Lincoln's tier standards, Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) and culturally responsive instruction. The learning goal would include lessons in Math, Language Arts and ELD with students participating in enrichment programs. Students would be selected by the District's high priority criteria: at risk of retention, far below basic and beginning English language learners. She said that success would be measured by using Lincoln's benchmarks, assessments and middle school assessment.

Local One. Richard Leung talked about the meeting with District administration on the BELL program. He said that Local One is concerned about sustainability and continuity. He said he supports UTR's summer program.

Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba gave a reminder that the next meeting will be held at Alvarado Adult School and the agenda will be posted on the website. She invited the community to join the meeting.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano gave an update from the meeting of March 14 with a brief summary of the action items discussed. The next meeting will be held April 12 at the Facilities Operation Center.

Ivy League Connection. Ms. Kronenberg provided an update on the summer programs at Columbia, Brown, Cornell, Penn, Yale and for the first time this year at Vanderbilt University.

Linked Learning. Mr. Medrano commented on the community organization meeting held Tuesday morning and plans for a business partner meeting in April. He talked about the California Bar Association presenting at DeAnza's Justice and Law Academy inauguration. Ms. Kronenberg announced the possible twenty-one academies in the District.

Safety Committee. Mr. Thurmond gave an update on the last meeting where the mentoring program at Kennedy was approved. The next meeting will be held on April 6 at Dover Elementary where discussion will include intervention in preventing crisis and a campaign to increase parent involvement.

Youth Commission. Ms. Merriweather gave an update of the last meeting. She announced that the students are working on their talent show and goals. The next meeting will be on March 28th.

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment
Carol Castellano, Jocelyn Collins-Taboada, Mary Flanagan, Ana Estrada, Tracie Fong, Eugenia Ledesma, Eduardo Martinez, Robert Palmieri, Kristen Pursley, Thomas Prather, Scottie Smith, Karen Vanwinkle, Karrie Wallen, Patricia Williams

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Second Interim Report, 2010-11 / Financial Update
Ms. Gamba introduced the Second Interim financial report.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the Second Interim Report, 2010-11. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

F.2 Richmond College Prep K-5 Charter School – Addendum to Charter Petition

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

F.3 Building Educated Leaders for Life (BELL) K-8 Summer Partnership Program

Ms. Rashidchi gave a presentation regarding the BELL program.

Public Comment:

Margaret Brown, Mel Collins, Sandra Falk, Lucy Giusto, Elin Hansen, Judith Hollenberger Dunlap, Kristin Jones, John Jurminger, Richard Leung, Eduardo Martinez, J.Hadiyah McLeod, Marcus Mitchell, Wendy Phillip, Scottie Smith, Eric Swabeck, Karen Vanwinkle

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano asked how the BELL program will address the special needs of the EL students. Ms. Rashidchi explained the training for teachers of EL students. He also asked about the hours for part time teachers. Ms. Rashidchi responded. Mr. Medrano asked about past District summer programs. Ms. Rashidchi explained that the District would normally be able to serve 2600 students but with the BELL partnership the District can offer smaller class sizes, fieldtrips and enrichment classes. He also asked about any summer program offered to the high school students. Mr. Greer responded.

Mr. Gabriel commented saying that he felt that the teachers could provide what students need.

Mr. Thurmond said he would like to be able to ask questions about BELL, the teacher's proposal and what was lacking in the past summer programs. Ms. Rashidchi responded with information about the limited resources for the summer program in the past years and the inability to implement a lot of great ideas because of lack of resources. She said the BELL program would bring more resources to the summer program. Mr. Thurmond asked whether there is a link from the BELL program that would enhance the regular year instruction. Ms. Rashidchi responded. He asked about the budget. Ms. Rashidchi clarified with a breakdown of the budget.

Ms. Carole Prest, BELL representative, addressed questions about the coaching process. She explained that a BELL coach starts as a teacher. She also provided information about BELL's staff educational background. Mr. Thurmond asked about the interaction between the staff and the BELL coach. Ms. Rashidchi responded that the principal would report directly to her and the rest of the staff would report to the principal as usual.

Ms. Merriweather asked for clarification of Lincoln's summer program. Ms. Rashidchi clarified that last year Lincoln had their own summer school program in August. Conversation has been held about whether Lincoln would be a part of the BELL summer program. Ms. Merriweather asked why the District couldn't offer a similar summer program with the budget that is currently available. Ms. Rashidchi explained that with the budget currently available, the District can offer a summer program but will not be able to offer the professional development, enrichment classes or fieldtrips. Ms. Merriweather said she felt that the District could offer a similar program. Ms. Merriweather expressed concern about the 600 students that would not be served and the lack of partnership between the District and UTR.

Mr. Thurmond asked Ms. Brown of UTR how teachers would be selected for the proposed summer program. Ms. Brown responded that hiring would be the District's responsibility. She further commented that the program would be using the Lincoln curriculum. He asked about timeline. Ms. Vanwinkle of UTR responded that since they would be using current curriculum that it wouldn't take long to put together. Mr. Thurmond asked about the difference in the quality of the program. Ms. Vanwinkle responded that when teachers invest in the curriculum they would be more motivated. He also wanted to know what would be the outcome measurements of goals. UTR members responded

that they aim for a three month gain from their proposed summer school program. Mr. Thurmond asked what support the teachers would need to implement the program. UTR members responded that they would need safety support and materials.

Ms. Kronenberg asked for clarification that the UTR proposal would be serve 2000 students. Ms. Brown confirmed. She also asked about professional development. Ms. Vanwinkle clarified. Ms. Kronenberg said she was very impressed with everyone's efforts in providing a summer program. She felt that support of the BELL program would be stronger.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the Splash Summer Institute K-8 Program. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) voted yes, Clerk Kronenberg and Mr. Medrano voted no, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. The motion failed due to a tie vote of 2-2-0-1.

F.4 Special Education Annual Service Plan / Special Education Annual Budget Plan

Clerk Madeline Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:
None

Clerk Kronenberg closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the Special Education Annual Service Plan / Special Education Annual Budget Plan. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Andrew Gabriel (advisory vote only) and Clerk Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS
None

H. UNFINISHED REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD (continued from Item E)
None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Merriweather commented on the recent Grant literacy night.

Ms. Kronenberg read a piece from the March for Peace program held in honor of a student at El Cerrito High that passed away.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – April 13, 2011

K. ADJOURNMENT

Clerk Kronenberg adjourned the meeting with thoughts and prayers for the community of Japan at 11:05 PM.

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

BH:rc

<i>MK</i> Approved 4/13/11
