

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

July 27, 2011

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Charles Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 7:00 PM, delayed due to technical difficulties with the television broadcast.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

President Ramsey led the pledge of allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

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

B.3 Roll Call

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

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Director Facilities Construction; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director/Bond Finance; Otilia Espinosa, Interpreter; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Antoinette Henry-Evans, Executive Director K-12; Joe Mayes, Manager Building & Maintenance; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Cecilia Mendoza, Executive Director K-12; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Ann Reinhagen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Vince Rhea, Executive Director K-12; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer

B.4 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the July 27, 2011 recommendation to approve expulsion case #001.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the recommendation of July 27, 2011 for expulsion case #001. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the following administrative appointment for 2011-2012:

Sharon Baltazar, Interim Assistant Principal, El Cerrito High School

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointment for 2011-2012. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: President Ramsey withdrew item C. 16, Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointments by the City of Hercules from the agenda and asked the Board to move items E.1 and E.2 to follow Consent Items in order to accommodate public comment. Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the agenda with the recommended changes. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.6 Minutes: July 13, 2011

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of July 13, 2011. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

- C.1 Acceptance of Donations**
- C.2 Contracted Services**
- C.3 Procurement Contracts for the School Year 2011-12**
- C.4 Notice of Completions: Bid J068221 Helms Middle School Building Demolition and General Site Work, Bid J068217 Kennedy High School Security Fencing Project**
- C.5 Disposal of Obsolete and Damaged District Personal Property for the School Year 2011-12**
- C.6 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44285.3**
- C.7 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated**
- C.8 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)**
- C.9 Revised School Calendar for 2011-2012**
- C.10 Ratification of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.11 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
- C.12 Inspector of Record Contracts for Bond Program Projects 2011-2012**
- C.13 El Cerrito High School Photovoltaic System Repairs, Maintenance and Monitoring Award of Contract**
- C.14 Collins Elementary Modularity Replacement Project Award of Contract**
- C.15 Approval of the relocation of the Coronado ES to the temporary location at Kennedy HS**
This item was pulled for public comment.
- C.16 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointments by the City of Hercules**
This item was withdrawn from the agenda.
- C.17 Interdistrict Attendance Agreement**

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.14 and C.17. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

- E.1 Superintendent's Report**
Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.
- E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment**
Alice Burton, Amy Anderson, Scottie Smith, Ivy Wiston, Hannah McBrayer, Cherese LeBlanc

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

- D.1 Budget Update**
Ms. Gamba provided information regarding the newly adopted state budget and particular details of interest.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
None

D.2 Standing Reports

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano provided a report of the July 26 meeting, which included the recommendation to the Board to relocate the Coronado campus to interim housing at the Kennedy High School campus during construction. The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2011.

United Teachers of Richmond. President Diane Brown talked about delegates of the National Education Association (NEA) passing policy regarding the opposition of Teach for America (TFA) contracts in districts used where there is no teacher shortage, when education funds are used to pay TFA fees, or when TFA agreements are used to reduce teacher costs or silence union voices. She requested that the District provide a history of fees paid to Teach

for American for the past five years. Ms. Brown thanked Ms. Reinhagen and Dr. Harter for cooperating with the UTR request to move the New Teacher Orientation to another date due to the conflict with a furlough day.

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Chairperson Robert Studdiford reported on the last meeting held July 25th where discussions included the engineering officer's report and capital assets management plans. The committee also toured the Ford Elementary campus. The next meeting is scheduled for August 24 and the committee is hopeful for a joint meeting with the Board of Education in the Fall.

Linked Learning. Ms. Kronenberg announced the state certification for Linked Learning and the Law Academy at Richmond High School.

Ivy League Connection. Mr. Ramsey spoke about the travel for school board members in Philadelphia, where the group met with admissions officers from Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, Swathmore College, Yale and Columbia. Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the Vanderbilt program in Nashville and the students' work around world religions. They both encouraged the public to take a look at the students' online blog.

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report
This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment
This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

C.15 Approval of the relocation of the Coronado ES to the temporary location at Kennedy HS
Ms. Merriweather said that she would like to learn more about this item as she has been contacted by concerned parents regarding the rationale for placing the elementary school on the high school campus.

Ms. Sisi Meng, Project Architect with WLC Architects, provided a presentation for the Coronado campus and their work on the conceptual plan for the relocation of the campus along Burk Avenue on the Kennedy campus. Mr. Ramsey spoke about collaboration with architects Powell and Partners for the Stege campus and their community's feedback as a result of the construction impact on that site as well. Mr. Savidge provided further information about timelines and outreach to the Coronado and Stege communities with information about each campus using the interim campus in turn. The rationale behind moving students and staff to an interim site is to reduce the consequences to education as a result of construction conflicts due to proximity at the original site and also allow construction to proceed at optimum capacity.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
Mr. Medrano asked about the playground area for students. Mr. Savidge responded.
Ms. Merriweather asked for clarification about when Stege will use the site. Mr. Ramsey provided further information.

President Ramsey asked the Board to amend the motion to include approval of Powell and Partners to work jointly with WLC Architects for Stege's use of this campus once the Coronado campus transitions back to their new campus. He asked that the Powell contract be brought back for amendment and ratification by the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the relocation of the Coronado ES to the temporary location at Kennedy HS and amending the Powell and Partners contract for the scope of tis work. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Resolution No. 14-1112: 2002 Measure D and 2000 Measure M Bond Refunding

Ms. Gamba introduced members of the District’s bond finance team Dave Olson of KNN Public Finance, Jeff Baratta Piper Jaffery, Kris Vaca of GCR LLP, and David Casnocha of Straddling, Yocca, Carlson and Rauth. Mr. Olson led a presentation regarding bond financing, assessed values and tax base growth.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Ramsey asked questions about legal obligation and tax rates. Mr. Casnocha responded that the \$60 tax rate cap as set forth in Proposition 39 is not applicable and subject to the issuance of refunding bonds nor customized to school districts and Proposition 39 bonds. The \$60 expected tax rate, as a condition established at the time of issuing bonds does not carry over to government code provisions that allow for the issuance of refunding bonds. President Ramsey also asked about Measure M bonds tax rate that are not Prop 39 bonds. Ms. Gamba responded with information regarding savings in interest rates and the opportunity to refund to taxpayers in present value savings, making the Board good stewards of its outstanding debt. Mr. Casnocha clarified the conditions of issuance of Proposition and non-Proposition 39 refunding bonds.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about a lower interest rate, not changing the amount of time for pay off, and lower amounts paid by taxpayers. He asked about the timing of the early August sale. Mr. Olson responded that there is a general feeling that resolution of debt ceiling crisis at the federal level would be helpful to this endeavor. A lack of resolution would be expected to be bad news for the bond market and other financial markets. Jeff Baratta concurred, saying that if the market is not right, the finance team will walk away from transactions if the savings threshold cannot be reached. President Ramsey asked whether interest rates are negotiated for municipal bonds put on the market. Mr. Baratta and Mr. Olson offered further information.

Discussion continued regarding presentations to rating companies. Further discussion continued about investor strategies, pricing and the disclosure profile. Kris Vaca spoke about the role of the disclosure profile, making sure that the official statement accurately reflects facts about the District and bond offerings to satisfy potential investors. President Ramsey said that the District would like opportunity to review of the document for accuracy. Ms. Gamba said that a draft was provided to the Board for approval in form. She said the final Preliminary Official Statement as a disclosure document it is still being refined prior to publication.

Ms. Merriweather asked about locking in investors. Mr. Olson clarified, saying he expects this to be a well received offering.

Mr. Casnocha spoke about the content of the disclosure documents.

Ms. Kronenberg asked about the District representatives speaking with rating firms such as Standards and Poor’s. Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Medrano said he is in support of moving forward.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Resolution No. 14-1112: 2002 Measure D and 2000 Measure M Bond Refunding. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

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

None

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – August 17, 2011

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.

<i>MK</i> Approved 8-17-11
