

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

September 5, 2012

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.
President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:31 P.M.

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, Engineering Officer; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Bill Fay; Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Philip Gonsalves; Director Curriculum & Instruction; Keith Holtslander, Director Facilities and Construction; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Andrew Kravin, Project Assistant; Brenda King-Randle, Middle College Principal; Kibby Kleiman, Richmond High Assistant Principal; Pat Martin, Juan Crespi Principal; Leticia Oregon, Translator; Finy Prak, Kennedy High Counselor; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Education Services; Liz Torio; Director Academic Intervention, Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

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

Mr. Alexander Hale provided a report of activities at Middle College High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointment of Connie Tillman as Coordinator of Educational Services.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointment. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather and President Ramsey voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond abstaining and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the agenda including item C.7 pulled for a separate vote and item C.10 withdrawn by staff. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Alexander Hale (advisory vote only) and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.7 Minutes: August 15, 2012

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of August 15, 2012. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Alexander Hale (advisory vote only) and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

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 Notice of Completions: Bid J068148 King Elementary New School Phase 2 New School, Bid J068116 Pinole Middle School Renovation, Bid J068300 Helms Middle School Video Surveillance System, Bid 1391215-01 Mira Vista Elementary School Concrete Stoops

C.6 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44285.3

C.7 Routine Personnel Changes – Certificated – Part I

This item was pulled for a separate vote.

C.8 Routine Personnel Changes – Certificated – Part II

C.9 Routine Personnel Changes – Classified

C.10 Approve the following New Job Description: Theater Technician

This item was withdrawn by staff.

C.11 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.12 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.13 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Jason Gallia appointed by Building Trades Council

C.14 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Wayne Ellis appointed by Supervisor Gioia

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.6, C.8, C.9, and C.11 – C.14. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Alexander Hale (advisory vote only) and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.7 Routine Personnel Changes – Certificated – Part I

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Item C.7 Routine Personnel Changes – Certificated – Part I. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Alexander Hale (advisory vote only) and President Ramsey voted yes, with Ms. Kronenberg abstaining and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Report on the Efforts by West Contra Costa Unified School District on a) K-8, b) Summer Learning, and c) Enrichment/Internships

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Liz Torio who provided a report on the summer extended learning elementary program at Downer, Peres, Montalvin, Verde, Nystrom, Riverside, Stege, Tara Hills and Fairmont schools. More than 2,000 students were served during the 19 days of instruction of English Language Arts, Mathematics, English Language Development, and Academic Language Development. The enrichment providers were Destiny Arts, East Bay Center for Performing Arts, Mad Science, and Museum of Children's Art.

Pat Martin spoke about the Juan Crespi Middle High School summer program for grades 7-12. The program included credit recovery, independent study and cyber high. The high school program graduated nearly 100 students at the end of the summer program.

Kibby Kleiman reported on the Richmond High summer school program. The program benefited students by offering cyber high independent study credit recovery and programs for supplemental and support classes for rising 9th graders as well as SAT preparatory classes. Advanced Placement support classes were offered for the first time. California High school Exit Exam preparation was also offered for multiple grade levels as well as intervention for rising 9th graders who were given programs in study skills and integrating with the high school campus.

Philip Gonsalves provided a Mathematics Achievement Academy (MAA) summer program report. He spoke of California State University East Bay and Chevron as funders, as well as additional funding from the Leshner Foundation for 2012 – 2014. He spoke of the success of the ten sections of Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II offered at Crespi, Helms, Portola and Stewart schools serving 203 students.

Finy Prak reported on various high school student programs, including Junior Achievement, UC Berkeley Summer Bridge, Academy of Art Pre-College Program, Holy Names Summer Bridge Program, Summer Legal Fellowship Program, Health Academy Summer Intern Program, STEM Contra Costa Economic Partnership through Chevron, Ivy League Connection, and the WCCUSD Summer School program. Over 2,000 students were able to participate in these summer enrichment programs. Ms. Prak introduced students who shared their experiences: Iris Wong, DeAnza junior; Hannah Lee Pablo, Pinole Valley junior; and Sayetsi Sanchez, Richmond High senior.

Public Comment:

Don Gosney

Board Comment:

Ms. Merriweather had questions about the elementary summer program. Ms. Torio responded with information about the students from the Youth Works program participating in classes and as needed at the seven elementary schools. Ms. Merriweather also asked about the high school programs for 8th graders. Mr. Kibby responded with information about a program for students currently at grade level as well as an intervention program for students needing study skills and an introduction to high school. Twenty-five were served.

Mr. Medrano asked about the summer extended learning mathematics and about the kindergarten level learning. Ms. Torio responded. He also had questions about Crespi's enrollment and the loss of students in the 7th and 8th grades over the course of the program. Mr. Martin responded with information about the kinds of contacts made to homes in effort to retain students. Mr. Medrano continued by asking about data to follow the students who participated in these programs to determine success. Mr. Greer responded that the goal was to provide necessary interventions to engage students and keep them active in school toward graduation. Mr. Medrano had further questions about high school math. Mr. Kleiman responded.

Mr. Thurmond had questions about the Mathematics Achievement Academy and participation at DeJean Middle School. Mr. Gonsalves responded. Mr. Greer spoke about the selection of summer school sites. Mr. Thurmond offered congratulations to the students and teachers who participated.

Ms. Kronenberg asked Ms. Torio about the elementary summer school comparisons with last year's program. Ms. Torio spoke about the children's enjoyment of the enrichment programs and the balance with academics. Mr. Kleiman spoke about teacher feedback regarding students getting ahead as well as picking up new skills. He felt this made a difference in the mood around the campus throughout the program.

President Ramsey asked the Ivy League Connection students about their experiences and what they can do to bring awareness to their own high school campus. The young ladies shared strategies about sharing their experiences with other students.

D.2 Report on the partnership with West Contra Costa Public Education Fund (The Ed Fund) and West Contra Costa Unified School District to lead a district-wide commitment to increase college access services and improve alignment of services to support the District's reform strategy, College and Career Readiness

Mr. Greer introduced Executive Director Joel Mackey and Program Director Robert Bunce of The Ed Fund and the challenge to create a college going culture in the District. They announced that The Ed Fund is the recipient of a grant of \$400,000 from the College Access Foundation to be used to serve students and promote a college going culture. Their goal is to increase the number of students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and provide financial aid advising and support. Studies show that students who complete the FAFSA are more likely to go on to college. The second strategy is to provide students with the counseling support needed to succeed. And lastly scholarships provided to students will continue to be a high priority with support from funders. The grant will also enable The Ed Fund to build the College Access Network to accomplish those goals. Mr. Bunce spoke about providing every student with the opportunity to get to college.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Ms. Kronenberg asked about the organizations in the network. Mr. Mackey responded with further information about the member organization. Discussion continued about staffing of centers at individual campuses.

Mr. Medrano asked about students who don't have necessary immigration papers. Mr. Bunce spoke about assisting undocumented students in completing the DREAM Act application. Mr. Bunce further spoke about the upcoming Getting Ready for College Conference.

Mr. Thurmond offered congratulations for receiving the grant. He also spoke about the great work The Ed Fund does. He continued with questions about staffing at the campus centers. Mr. Mackey responded that their plan is to approach member community based organizations to supplement funding.

President Ramsey asked that Item E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment be moved up on the agenda to accommodate members of the audience.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of moving item E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment up on the agenda. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Board Representative Alexander Hale (advisory vote only) and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment

Giorgio Cosentino, Albert Chan, Karen VanWinkle, Annie Gwathney, James Graggs, Eric Martin, Cheryl Teasley, Laquita Madison, Audra Williams, Donald Jackson, Dan Romeo

President Ramsey declared a five minute recess.

D.3 Standing Reports

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Mr. Robert Studdiford reported that the next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2012 at the Facilities Operations Center and the agenda will include election of new officers for the upcoming year as well as discussion of the Grand Jury report.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi announced the next meeting scheduled for September 11, 6:30 PM at Helms Middle School. Topics will include the District's transition to California Common Core Standards.

Youth Commission. Mr. Thurmond said the Commission will hold an orientation meeting on September 26, 6:00 PM at RYSE Center in Richmond. Notices will be sent to all high schools.

Safety Committee. Mr. Thurmond reported that the next meeting is scheduled for September 6, 9:00 AM at Kennedy High School. The Committee will review a resolution to bring more full service community schools to the District as well as student suspension data. Ms. Merriweather noted the new time in hopes of getting more participants to attend.

Ivy League Connection. President Ramsey announced that several colleges and universities plan to host District information sessions in the coming weeks. He also spoke about the Brown University Women's Symposium to be held in November.

D.4 In Memory of Members of the School Community

Superintendent Harter recognized the contributions of members of the community who have passed away.

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

This item was moved to follow item D. 2.

F. ACTION ITEMS

None

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report

Mr. Magdy Abdalla provided a report of construction projects in the District.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Discussion took place regarding the Peres Dental Clinic. Construction staff members Ken Yamaguchi, Alexandros Gourtzelis and Jose Vilar provided information and clarification regarding the project. The grand opening ceremony is planned for September 28, 2012.

Board members continued with questions about the DeAnza construction and Helms field project to which staff provided clarification.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Merriweather reported on visiting the Coronado campus at the opening of school. She said staff made sure that everything ran smoothly. She said she was excited for the start of school and football season as she plans to attend some of the high school games.

Mr. Thurmond asked for an update on truancy prevention efforts to be provided at a future meeting. He spoke about meeting with groups from two different schools regarding the Music in Schools program. He welcomed students and families back to a new school year.

Ms. Kronenberg welcomed everyone back to the new school year. She announced a meeting for September 6th with the Hercules Democratic Club, 6:00 PM at Hercules Middle School to discuss education in Hercules.

Mr. Medrano spoke about a recent visit to Lake and meeting parents. He asked whether Lake and Grant schools will be rebuilt when the bond measure passes. President Ramsey responded affirmatively. Mr. Medrano continued by saying that he would like to see comparison of suspensions and expulsions to share with the public. He concluded with remarks about attending the new Contra Costa Health Center which opened in San Pablo.

Superintendent Harter spoke about Proposition 30, Governor Brown's measure on the November ballot. It is an income tax increase for single individuals earning \$250,000 or more and couples earning \$500,000 or more and a ¼ cent sales tax increase. It is important funding for schools in California and without these funds WCCUSD is looking at a loss of \$12 million to the 2012-13 budget.

President Ramsey announced that he will visit Shannon and meet with the PTA. He concluded the meeting with wishes for a happy birthday to Mr. Lance Jackson.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – September 19, 2012

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:28 P.M.

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

BH:dh

<u>AAM</u> Approved 9/19/12
