

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

February 6, 2013

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.
President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:33 P.M.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

President Kronenberg led the pledge of allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

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

B.3 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Randall Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg, Elaine Merriweather, Charles Ramsey

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Reyna Ortiz de Touriel, Interpreter; Wendy Pangelina, Human Resources Technician; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Richmond High School

Mr. Hao Zhang provided a report of activities at Richmond High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to dismiss a classified employee.

MOTION: Ms. Ramsey moved approval of the action taken in Closed Session for dismissal of a classified employee. Mr. Groves seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voting yes, Mr. Enos voting no, and Ms. Merriweather abstaining. Motion carried 3-1-1-0.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey recommended placing items D. 1 to follow B.7 and F.2 to follow D.1 and moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.7 Minutes: January 23, 2013

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of January 23, 2013. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.1 African-American History Month School Presentations

Students from Ford, Grant, and Tara Hills Elementary Schools, DeJean Middle School, and Kennedy High School offered presentations in honor of African-American History Month.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey recommended moving item F. 2 and D. 2 to follow D.1 and moved approval of this amendment to the agenda. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.2 Modification to the Kennedy High School Attendance Boundaries

Superintendent Harter explained the rationale to modify the Kennedy attendance area so that the school is inside its own boundary area. The impact of this modification would impact the students of the Class of 2017. Families will also have opportunity to apply for transfer privileges in order to attend a different school.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Modification to the Kennedy High School Attendance Boundaries. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.2 Sample Survey

Mr. Bryan Godbe provided a report of the recent telephone survey of the community for a potential parcel tax ballot measure. Mr. Godbe explained the criteria and the sample size of the survey. He spoke about the voters passing several measures with the November 2012 election with great success. He reported that the survey revealed a too-narrow base of voter support for a parcel tax measure with the required two-thirds majority vote for an election in either June or November of 2013. He suggested that, based on the polling results, placing the measure on a June or November 2014 election ballot would fair more successfully with a higher voter turnout.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Mr. Groves asked how likely the data predicted the actual voter turnout for a 2014 ballot measure's success. Mr. Godbe responded with information about the consistency unless a major economic catastrophe was to occur.

Ms. Merriweather asked about the recommendation to delay to November 2014. Mr. Godbe said he felt November 2014 was the best, but agreed with Mr. Ramsey that there was no statistical difference for June 2014.

Mr. Ramsey thanked Mr. Godbe for the valuable information and remarked that it would be prudent for the Board to wait for the optimum time to consider moving forward with a ballot measure.

Mr. Groves spoke about public education and the sacrifices employees, students and the public have already made. He advised that the Board not be reckless to move forward in this climate.

Mr. Enos said he agreed that it is incumbent on the Board to educate the public about the needs of students. He said that he saw the 2014 date as a target with much work to be done in the meantime.

President Kronenberg spoke of the value to take the temperature of the community and the opportunity to reinforce community values for education dollars.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey recommended moving item F. 1 to follow Consent Items and moved approval of this amendment to the agenda. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg 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 Community Budget Advisory Committee Amended Member Ratification

C.6 Acceptance of Contracts for Placement of Student Teachers

C.7 Benefits Package for Unrepresented Management, Cabinet and Confidential Employees

Public Comment:

Giorgio Cosentino

Mr. Whittemore read an amendment to this item into the record:

The employees of the school district who are in the categories of Unrepresented Management, Cabinet, Superintendent and Confidential will receive the benefit contribution rates for active employees, cash in lieu amounts and vision plan as agreed upon with West Contra Costa Administrator's Association (WCCAA). The retiree vesting and contribution program for the above groups will remain as previously adopted, Unrepresented Classified Management, Classified Cabinet and Confidential will align with the School Supervisors Association (SSA) and Unrepresented Certificated Management and Certificated Cabinet will align with West Contra Costa Administrators Association (WCCAA). The school board will select from benefits plans and correlating contribution rates that are currently offered to the bargaining units in accordance with Board Policy and will adhere to the retiree provisions in Board Bylaw 9250. These benefits will be effective January 1, 2013.

Fiscal Impact: \$128,856 annual cost

C.8 Certification of Athletic Coaches – Winter Sports

C.9 Resolution No. 65-1213: Disabilities Awareness Month – March 2013

Public Comment:

Giorgio Cosentino

C.10 Resolution No. 67-2013: Read Across America - March 2, 2013

C.11 Approval of Board Members Travel

Public Comment:

Giorgio Cosentino

C.12 Letter in Support of AB48

C.13 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.14 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.15 Measures J and D 2010, Measure E 2012, Bond Program Budget Update

C.16 Adoption of Resolution 66-1213 for SAB "Applications Received Beyond Bond Authority"

C.17 Approval of Additional Program Management General Conditions Reimbursable Expense

C.18 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointments

Public Comment:

Giorgio Cosentino

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.18. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

F.1 Distribution of School Resource Officers for 2013-14 school year

Mr. Greer reported on the proposal for School Resource Officer (SRO) services for the 2013-14 school year. He detailed the recommendations for the various cities.

Public Comment:

Giorgio Cosentino, Hercules Mayor John Delgado, Hercules Council Member Dan Romero

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked Hercules Police Chief Goswick for his input about the implementation of a second SRO at Hercules Middle High School. Chief Goswick reported that the second SRO would report for duty on February 25th. The Chief and his staff will continue to work with the Hercules principals to continue the safety program in the community. Mr. Ramsey suggested that the Chief might be interested participating in the Safety Committee.

Ms. Merriweather asked about financial implications of adding an additional SRO in Hercules while eliminating the Sheriff SRO for the unincorporated areas of the District. Ms. Gamba said she thought the cost would balance out. Ms. Merriweather spoke of the good relationship with all the SROs and expressed appreciation for their attendance in involvement in the Safety Committee.

Mr. Groves said he hoped to continue the good relations and communication with the City of Hercules. President Kronenberg thanked the Hercules Mayor and City Council Members for attending the meeting to voice their concerns. She said she would also like to focus on the academic achievement in Hercules schools as well.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Distribution of School Resource Officers for 2013-14 school year. Ms. Merriweather seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voting yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey recommended moving E. 2 Public Comment to follow item F.1 and moved approval of this amendment to the agenda. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Board Representative Hao Zhang (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

E.2 Public Comment:

Mary Flannagan, Wendy Phillips, Eric Reed, Giorgio Cosentino, Alexandra J. Campbell, Eric Swabeck, Russell Gillaspay, John Irminger, Jayne Nichols, Alicia Harrison, Gig Jenkins, Mario Sagastume, Julia Liepman, Jim Aiken, Farm Saechao, André Brunetti

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 African-American History Month School Presentations

This item was moved to follow item B.7.

D.2 Presentation on the Random Sample Survey

This item was moved to follow F.2.

D.3 Standing Reports

United Teachers of Richmond. President Diane Brown spoke about the need for an open commitment to fairness for employees who have had no salary increase for the last four years. While the economic outlook is for improvement, she urged the District to support teachers in the classroom. Executive Director Kerry Moriarty spoke of two decades of cuts to employees and the need to make employee welfare as a priority.

Public Employees Union Local One. Supervising Business Agent Scott Brown said that Local One supports UTR. He commended the bargaining teams for working together as a good first step to future bargaining. He introduced Mr. Jeff Apkarian, Business Agent, as a new staff member. Mr. Brown concluded by saying that Local One is committed to continue the safety program in an impactful way to support the community.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi reported on the January meeting and training on the Common Core State Standards. She reported that the next meeting is set for February 12, 6:30 PM at Helms Middle School and will include the District Advisory Committee meeting.

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Mr. Ramsey reported on the recent resignation of the Chairperson and Mr. Cowens as acting Chair. He said the next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 6:00 PM, and that the committee is eager to schedule joint meetings with the Board for June and October.

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba reported on last meeting where discussion included the Governor's budget proposal. She said that many members attended a conference to learn more about what the State budget entails. The next meeting will be held in March.

College & Career Readiness Academies. Mr. Greer reported that the District will host Dr. William Daggett on February 27th at the East Bay Performing Arts Center, 5:30 PM, to lead a discussion on high school reform issues and linked learning. The District is inviting all stakeholders to participate in support of secondary student development.

Safety Committee. Ms. Merriweather reported that the next meeting will be held February 7, 9:00 AM at Alvarado. The agenda includes the nutrition program and protocol for lockdown procedures.

Youth Commission. Mr. Groves reported on the upcoming Global Youth Service Day which is coordinated by Ms. Bertha Romo and the City of Richmond. The committee is also reviewing issues like the achievement gap and drop-out rate. The next meeting is planned for March 11, 6:30 PM at Helms.

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 F.1.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Distribution of School Resource Officers for 2013-14 school year

This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

F.2 Modification to the Kennedy High School Attendance Boundaries

This item was moved to follow item D.1.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report

Mr. Abdalla provided a report of construction progress in the District.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey had comments about Peres, Helms, and King. Mr. Abdalla responded with information.

Ms. Merriweather asked about plans for a ribbon cutting for the new DeAnza High School. Mr. Abdalla said that staff will be coordinating with the City and the school site to determine a date.

Mr. Ramsey spoke about full time Construction Administration Services at the Gompers Leadership construction site. He said he would also like to have a Construction Administrator at the Portola site to accelerate the project. Dr. Harter suggested that would go to the Facilities Subcommittee for a recommendation.

President Kronenberg spoke about the upcoming contractor walk-through at the Castro site and the recent City of El Cerrito decision to implement a committee to work with the District on disposition of the old Portola site.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Enos said he appreciated the student performers and looked forward to the work ahead.

Mr. Ramsey shared information with the Board and Superintendent regarding a youth program with firefighters. He also reported on the recent mock trial competitions for students with teams from El Cerrito, Richmond, Kennedy, and Hercules High Schools.

Mr. Groves commented on the history making people in the audience and on the Board and said that the public looks to the Board to set a tone. He said he was honored to sit with his fellow board members.

Ms. Merriweather said she enjoyed the student presentations which reinforced the importance of the arts. She reported on an upcoming performance at the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts on February 24th, *Call Mr. Roberson*, as a celebration of Black History month.

President Kronenberg announced the special Board meeting planned for February 13, 7:00 PM. This will be opportunity to learn more about the debt limit, Proposition 39 capping, and use of capital appreciation bonds. She invited the public to attend with questions about bond measures issued by the District.

Mr. Ramsey asked President Kronenberg to adjourn the meeting in memory of Carter G. Woodson and his accomplishments as an African-American historian.

President Kronenberg adjourned in memory of Carter G. Woodson and in honor of and Mr. Jael Myrick, newly appointed Richmond City Council Member.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – March 6, 2013

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:19 P.M.

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

BH:dh