

**RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL  
WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
JOINT MEETING**

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, March 26, 2013**

The Special Joint Meeting of the Richmond City Council/West Contra Costa Unified School District was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Boozé, and Mayor McLaughlin; School Boardmembers Enos, Groves, Merriweather, Ramsey, and President Kronenberg. **Absent:** None.

**STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None

**STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION**

Mayor McLaughlin introduced the Richmond Tales Fest Planning Committee who gave a presentation highlighting the Community Family Literacy Festival to be held in the Richmond Civic Center Plaza on April 20, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The committee reported that the event would include an afternoon of fun, family literacy, and healthy living for everyone. Families will have access to thousands of free children's books, gently used and new, as well as resources for families to learn about outdoor activities that they can do instead of watching TV or playing video games.

City Manager Bill Lindsay and West Contra Costa Unified School District Superintendent Bruce Harter gave a report to the Richmond City Council and the West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Board on the status of: (1) the West Contra Costa Unified School District's Bond Program for Richmond school facilities; and (2) plans to jointly renovate the Richmond Swim Center at Kennedy High School. Other participants in the report were District Engineering Officer Magdy Abdalla and Architect Mark Albertson of Principal at Architects MA who discussed the Bond Program which funds renovation projects such as: Ford Elementary School, King Elementary School, Nystrom Elementary School, Peres Elementary School, Washington Elementary School, Lavonia De Jean Middle School, Gompers, De Anza High School, Kennedy High School, and Richmond Swim Center at Kennedy High School. The Bond Program has spent approximately \$372,233,882 million on the City of Richmond Elementary Schools and \$306,835,310 million on the City of Richmond Middle/High Schools, for a total of \$679,069,192 million. Board Member Ramsey requested a report from staff on how the City of Richmond and the WCCUSD staff were working together. Vice Mayor Boozé suggested that staff involve the neighborhood councils in the architect designs of the Richmond Swim Center at Kennedy High School. He also requested a monthly report on

the progress of the Richmond Swim Center at Kennedy High School. Councilmember Bates requested WCCUSD staff submit documentation that shares information with the City Council and residents listing all the funding proposals for the City of Richmond for past and present projects. Wesley Ellis, Mike Peritz, and Texanita Bluitt gave comments. Mayor McLaughlin requested that the WCCUSD Board/staff meet with citizens who have concerns regarding Kennedy High School improvements and make allocations as appropriate. WCCUSD Boardmember Enos volunteered to oversee a committee to address concerns.

The Richmond City Council and the West Contra Costa Unified School District received a presentation on current partnerships between the City of Richmond and West Contra Costa Unified School District, including: (1) Nystrom United Revitalization Effort; (2) Umbrella Joint Use Facility Agreement; and (3) Lawrence Berkeley National Lab Planning Activities by Management Analyst LaShonda White, City Manager Bill Lindsay, District Engineering Officer Magdy Abdalla, City Engineer Alan Wolken, and Principle Architect Marcy Wong of Wong Logan Architects. The presentation included a PowerPoint Presentation which highlighted: The Vision of Nystrom, project area, project partners, Nystrom Elementary Project, Cutting Boulevard Concept Plan, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, and the Joint Use Facility Agreement. Ms. Wilson stated that specific joint use agreements would be established for specific uses. The presentation continued with Mr. Lindsay giving an update regarding the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Richmond Bay Campus including the education opportunities available. Mayor McLaughlin used this moment to invite everyone to the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, 2013, at Nevin Center from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Booker T. Anderson Park. Councilmember Rogers requested staff research and present documentation regarding whether private investment would be subject to the City of Richmond's rules and regulations. Linda Whitmore stated that the Santa Fe community would like a full functioning community center. Jackie Thompson also encouraged the City Council and WCCUSD Board to establish better communication and outreach with the community regarding events and services available in the City of Richmond. She also stated that many Richmond residents do not have internet service and are not aware of events and resources available within the community. Councilmember Rogers requested staff research ways the City of Richmond may assist Richmond residents in receiving free internet services. WCCUSD Superintendent Harder gave a report on the Mock Trial Program. Dr. Harter reported that the program was a five to six week summer program created to help students acquire a working knowledge of our judicial system, develop analytical abilities and communication skills, and gain an understanding of their obligations and responsibilities as participating members of our society.

The Richmond City Council and the West Contra Costa Unified School District received a presentation on the Richmond Health Equity Partnership's (RHEP) Health in All Policies (HiAP) and Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) strategies, the objectives of which are to help advance health equity for Richmond children and families. RHEP was formed as a partnership between the City of Richmond, West Contra Costa Unified School District, Contra Costa Health Services, and UC Berkeley. City Manager

Bill Lindsay gave an overview of the City of Richmond's HiAP and the WCCUSD FSCS Program. Other participants in the presentation included: Health and Wellness Coordinator Gabino Arredondo, WCCUSD Associate Superintendent Wendell Greer, and Student Support Services Tashaka Merriweather. The HiAP emanates from the City of Richmond's General Plan Health and Wellness Element. "The mission of Richmond's Health in All Policies (HiAP) strategy is to advance overall health and health equity in Richmond. As part of the Richmond Health Equity Partnership, the City of Richmond is the lead on HiAP. HiAP is the practice of taking an integrated and comprehensive approach to bring health, well-being, and equity considerations into the development and implementation of policies in the non-health care/medical setting." RHEP hopes to create a model for other cities in West Contra Costa County to emulate. The WCCUSD leads the FSCS Subcommittee that will develop a FSCS strategy for WCCUSD schools in Richmond. A FSCS partnership between the school and other community resources would focus on academics, health and social services, youth and community development and community engagement to improve student learning, stronger families and healthier communities. Staff reported that the process to accomplish a FSCS begins with the following three teams: a site level, steering, and community teams. Staff also reported that the RHEP was funded by the California Endowment and WCCUSD and staff will continue to hold community involvement meetings. Richard Stallings and Melvin Willis gave comments.

The Richmond City Council and the West Contra Costa Unified School District received a report on safety-related programs in West Contra Costa Unified School District schools that involve cooperative relationships with the City of Richmond, including: (1) School Resource Officer (SRO) Program; (2) daytime curfew; and (3) the Restorative Justice Program. Police Chief Chris Magnus gave an overview of the report. Other participants in the presentation included: Captain Mark Gagan, Lieutenant Michael Booker, and Sergeant Brian Dickerson. The SRO Program was a component of the Youth Services Division. Lieutenant Michael Booker reported that the primary responsibility of the SRO Program was De Anza and Richmond High Schools, and Lavonya DeJean Middle School. There are currently two SROs at DeAnza High School, two at Richmond High, one at Kennedy, and one at Lavonya DeJean Middle School. Lieutenant Booker also reported that SROs are responsible for: assisting with the School Safety Program, safety presentations at each site, gang intervention training, collaboration with Bay Area Peace Keepers (ONS, RYSE, etc.) regarding mentoring and conflict resolution, shooter training on campuses, assisting probation with compliance checks on campuses, participating in afterschool activities, enforcing the daytime curfew, and assisting with home visits regarding trancies. Lieutenant Booker also reported that the goal of the SRO Program was to develop positive relationships with young people and keep campuses safe, crime-free, and conducive to a healthy learning environment. **(At 11 p.m. on motion of Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Myrick extended the meeting to finish the item with Councilmember Butt, Vice Mayor Booze, and WCCUSD Boardmember Enos voting Noe)** Boardmember Ramsey requested staff research the ability to link the School CCTV Systems with the City of Richmond. He also stated that the WCCUSD may be able to assist with funding equipment for the SRO Program. Chief

Magnus stated that the Day-Time Curfew Program needed funding for case manager positions and also funding for staff to monitor children that are dropped off at the Police Activities League (PAL). Sergeant Brian Dickerson explained the process of enforcing the day-time curfew. He stated that students were stopped to verify a valid excuse to be out of school; if no valid excuse, the student was taken back to school, home, or PAL and parents were contacted; parents and students were given resources and a court date; judge gives parents and students benefits of going to school; judge does an assessment of why the child was not going to school to get to root cause; family given resources, and next court date; if the child has attended school as required, the child was given positive reinforcement gifts. Chief Magnus stated that if there was no cooperation from the parents and child, the case would go through the normal process for violation of the day-time curfew ordinance. The Principal of Lavonya DeJean Middle School Sylvia Greenwood gave information on the Restorative Justice Program (RJP) implemented at Lavonya DeJean Middle School. She stated that the program has allowed individuals to open up and discuss issues going on in their lives. Ms. Greenwood reported that since implementing the RJP, Lavonya DeJean has seen a decrease of 79 percent in suspensions from last year and a change in student attendance of an average 95 percent. Ms. Greenwood also reported that the RJP has been used with parents to explain what was going on in their households. Ms. Greenwood concluded that the RJP has positively changed the climate and culture of Lavonya DeJean Middle School.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 p.m. in memory of Rick Wood.

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City Clerk

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Mayor

**CTR**  
Approved 6/12/13