

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

May 15, 2013

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:34 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, Madeline Kronenberg, Elaine Merriweather, Charles Ramsey. Todd Groves arrived at 6:50 PM.

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Keith Holtslander, Director of Facilities; Reyna Ortiz de Touriel, Interpreter; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Cecilia Mendoza, Executive Director K-12; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services; Vince Rhea, Gompers High School Principal; Katie VonHusen, Coordinator State & Federal Programs; Ken Whittmore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

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

Mr. Taeao Austin Tauanuu provided a report of activities at Gateway High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to appoint assistant principals for the Extended Learning Summer School program:

Summerlyn Sigler at Juan Crespi Middle High School
Guthrie Fleischman at Kennedy High School
Kibby Kleiman at Richmond High School

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the action taken in Closed Session to appoint assistant principals to the Extended Learning Summer School program. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Ramsey, Ms. Merriweather, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey recommended moving items F.4 and D. 3 up on the agenda and moved approval of the agenda with those changes. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Taeao Austin Tauanuu (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.7 Minutes: April 24, 2013; May 1, 2013

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of April 24, 2013 and May 1, 2013. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Taeao Austin Tauanuu (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves 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

Mr. Ramsey asked for clarification regarding the KNN contract approval. Ms. Gamba clarified that the dates of service should be amended to reflect 3/1/2013 to 6/3/2013.

C.5 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

C.6 Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC Report)

C.7 Letters In Support of Petition for Rehearing of *Borikas v. Alameda USD* and For Depublication

C.8 Resolution No. 92-1213: Classified School Employee Week, May 19-25, 2013

C.9 Revised Board Policy

C.10 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.11 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.12 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contracts (CUPCCAA)

C.13 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: De Anza Move, Furniture & Equipment Removal & Debris Off-Haul

C.14 Lease Agreement between the District and Marina Westshore Partners LLC, a California limited liability company regarding temporary Office Space for the District's Facilities Operation Center

C.15 Contra Costa County School Boards Association Representative

C.16 Organizational Change / Job Description

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.16. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Taea Austin Tauanuu (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

F.4 Proposal to Relocate West Contra Costa Unified School District Community Day Program

Mr. Greer gave an overview of the staff recommendation to relocate the school with the Contra Costa County Office of Education providing services. Superintendent Harter provided expulsion statistics over the past six years. The change in climate at schools has resulted in a significant reduction in expulsions and the need for the Community Day Program. He reported that prior to the District's Community Day program, the County Office of Education provided these services for students.

Public Comment:

Cecilia Terrazs, Andrew Purdy, Diane Webb

Mr. Groves arrived at meeting at 6:50 PM.

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked the District's legal counsel, Attorney David Soldani, for his clarification regarding attorneys handling the lawsuit with on behalf of plaintiffs. Diane Webb shared that the ACLU, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, and Morgan Lewis were the three legal groups involved. Mr. Soldani provided clarification and concurred with the staff recommendation on economic grounds.

Ms. Merriweather said she agreed with the staff recommendation and affirmed that the County can best serve these students.

President Kronenberg underscored Ms. Merriweather's point, that the County is an excellent provider of services. The District has been successful to keep expulsions at an absolute minimum.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Proposal to Relocate West Contra Costa Unified School District Community Day Program. Mr. Enos seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Taea Austin Tauanuu (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Ivy League Summer Programs: Students from El Cerrito High School, Pinole Valley High School, Hercules High School, De Anza High School, Richmond High School and Middle College High School will participate in college readiness programs offered at respective Ivy League Universities

Gompers Principal Vince Rhea provided background and recognized the many people involved in this program. He introduced chaperones and students for their respective programs.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey introduced the following Ivy League Connection alumni: Andrew Gonzalez, attending Brown University, Austin Long attending Yale University, Yohanna Pepa at Yale University, and Christina Pelayo, University of Pennsylvania. They provided reflections on their ILC involvement and the positive impact on their college experiences.

Mr. Rhea recognized the benefactors who have financially supported the program. Funders Mr. Reginald Terrell and Mr. Jeff Baratta provided remarks.

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey spoke of the success of the program because of the funders' generosity. He thanked the benefactors for supporting this program for students, chaperones, and college visits. He said this is the eighth year of the program.

Mr. Enos charged the students upon their return to work with him to encourage Kennedy High School student participation. He offered congratulations for their hard work and efforts.

Ms. Merriweather offered congratulations and commended the program. She encouraged the students by saying they have already proven themselves to be successful. She thanked the chaperones for giving up a portion of their summer to devote to students.

Mr. Groves said the students' hard work is paying off and they have made a great accomplishment. He commended the ILC for making opportunities possible that many families could never offer to their children.

Mr. Don Gosney gave closing remarks about the role of giving back to the community.

President Kronenberg reflected that this program is run by volunteers and the efforts of District staff. She gave the breakdown of this year's 38 students; 12 from El Cerrito High, 9 from Pinole Valley High, 8 from Hercules Middle High, 5 from DeAnza High, and 4 from Middle College High School. She encouraged them to return to their home high schools and create Ivy League Connection clubs to promote the vehicle to give back to the community.

A brief recess taken at this time.

D.2 WCCUSD Common Core Standards Project Plan Update

Ms. VonHusen provided an update on the Common Core project plan and areas of instructional focus. She provided information about the work being done by school sites as well as by central office staff.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey commented on the initial implementation stage and getting technology department in alignment.

Ms. Merriweather had questions regarding the Governor's budget for start up funds for Common Core. Ms. Gamba replied that if passed by legislature she estimated the funds will be represented as 2012-2013 carry over funds. Ms. Gamba was hopeful that this will be startup funding for these kinds of initiatives.

Mr. Groves said he saw the task force recommendations moving forward into action. He asked about feedback from staff. Ms. Rashidchi responded with information and areas of focus as well as opportunity to critique the process by mid June. Ms. Rashidchi reported that central office staff will catalog the data and look for trends for professional learning communities opportunity for sharing best practices as well as where additional support may be needed. Mr.

Groves asked how the District will keep a pulse on teachers' level of engagement and feeling of being supported. Ms. Rashidchi spoke about the reality of this implementation taking about 4-5 years for full transition for use of the standards on a daily basis at a rigorous level.

President Kronenberg spoke about the collaboration opportunity for teachers to be sure they understand the interactive systems.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey motioned to move item F.1 up on the agenda. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Taea Austin Tauanuu (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

Student Representative Taea Austin Tauanuu left the meeting for the evening.

F.1 Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music

Superintendent Harter gave background regarding the recommendation to phase the elementary music program back into 18 elementary schools.

Public Comment:

Julie Maier, Cecilia Distefano

Board Comment:

Ms. Merriweather spoke about the importance of music to elementary students and its effect on complex reasoning skills for children. She spoke of the turn around and that the District is beginning to bring things programs that were previously cut due to budget constraints. She reflected that it was painful to make the cuts over the past years and is glad to see things moving in a positive direction.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music. Mr. Enos seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.3 Bond Finance – Review of Outstanding Bonds and Refunding Analysis

This item was moved to follow item F.3.

D.4 Standing Reports

College and Career Readiness Academies. Mr. Greer announced the upcoming May 21st Academy Awards for Linked Learning showcasing high school students initiatives.

Citizens Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba reported that committee members will attend next week's Governor's budget workshop. This will be opportunity for members to get information from professionals analysts.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Ramsey reported on the recent meeting about the relocation of the Facilities Operations Center to larger site as it has outgrown the current location. He also said the committee reviewed the reconstruction projects Wilson, and Stege Elementary Schools, the Richmond College Prep campus and the closure of 11th street for additional campus space. He spoke about scheduled Maintenance and Operations projects. President Kronenberg asked for a report at an upcoming facilities committee meeting to clarify maintenance projects from bond projects.

Safety Committee. Ms. Merriweather reported on the Kaiser and SPARK presentations made at the last meeting. She said the Strategic Planning Committee also attended the meeting and spoke with members. Mr. Enos spoke about the strategic planning and specific difficulties to handle the process. Ms. Merriweather concluded by saying the next meeting will be held in September 2013.

Technology Committee. Mr. Greer reported that at the next meeting the committee will review the District's technology plan and the job description of the new Chief Technology Officer. President Kronenberg suggested that County Office of Education's technology officer should be seated on the District's committee.

Youth Commission. Mr. Groves reported on the recent meeting where the group met with strategic planning consultants and what issues high schools face. He reported on the Global Youth Service program at Richmond Convention Center to be held on May 16.

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
Kristen Pursley, Catherine Collen

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music
This item was moved to follow item D.2.

F.2 Public Hearing and Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from the Public Employees, Local One to West Contra Costa Unified School District
Mr. Whittemore spoke on the initial proposal from Local One to the District. Once the public hearing is held and the item approved by the Board, negotiations can proceed.

President Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:
None

President Kronenberg closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from the Public Employees, Local One to West Contra Costa Unified School District. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.3 Public Hearing and Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from the West Contra Costa Unified School District to the Public Employees, Local One
Superintendent Harter asked the Board to hold a public hearing and approve the item in order for negotiations to proceed.

President Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:
None

President Kronenberg closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from the West Contra Costa Unified School District to the Public Employees, Local One. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.3 Bond Finance – Review of Outstanding Bonds and Refunding Analysis

Superintendent Harter introduced Dave Olson of KNN Public Finance who offered a presentation on bond refunding strategy. Also available for comment were Scott Henry of E. J. De La Rosa Investment Bankers, Jeff Baratta of Piper Jaffery & Company, and Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance. Discussion included key elements to emphasize regarding the refunding of general obligation bonds.

F.4 Proposal to Relocate West Contra Costa Unified School District Community Day Program

This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

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

Mr. Enos spoke about the meeting including great opportunities for students and ending with opportunity to benefit students.

Ms. Merriweather wished all Seniors a good graduation. She remarked that Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Groves both had daughters graduating from high school this year.

Mr. Groves said he was late to the meeting as he was advocating for Local Control Funding Formula. He urged people to contact legislatures and being a voice.

Mr. Ramsey spoke about the difficult opposition as compared to some affluent districts with parcel tax programs. He also commented on the historic vote regarding debt limit waiver by State Board of Education. He expressed appreciation of the teacher/union partnership and community entities that supported the waiver.

President Kronenberg spoke about the tremendous effort put forward on behalf of the District's debt limit waiver. She also spoke about Governor Brown's efforts to support to support education and challenged districts with the Local Control Funding Formula.

Mr. Ramsey asked what would happen around deficits if the Local Control Funding came through this year. Ms. Gamba responded that the funds could not be budgeted until the state budget is signed.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – June 12, 2013

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 10:53 P.M.

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

BH:dh

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CTR</u> Approved 6/12/13</p>
