

**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting
DeJean Middle School
Multipurpose Room
3400 Macdonald Ave.
Richmond, CA 94805**

November 13, 2013

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:45 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 those in attendance in 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; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance / Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent for Secondary Schools; Superintendent Bruce Harter; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Keith Holtslander, Director of Facilities; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Reyna Touriel, Translator; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

President Kronenberg called for a moment of silence in remembrance of El Cerrito High student Fausto Delgado who died tragically on November 12.

B.4 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter reported that the Board, in Closed Session, approved his annual evaluation with contract renewal for one additional year, through 2016-17. He declined a salary increase.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of extending the Superintendent's contract one additional year through 2016-17. Ms. Merriweather seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, Ms. Merriweather, and President Kronenberg voting yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, REPORTS

C.2 Bond Sale, 2010 Measure D and 2012 Measure E

Dave Olson of KNN Public Finance, Jeff Baratta of Piper Jaffrey Investments and Scott Henry of De La Rosa Investment Bankers, provided a presentation to the Board regarding the recent sale of \$125 million in bonds. Mr. Olson provided details saying the bonds will be issued to anticipate the next series of bond sales in two years' time. He explained that this will provide a sustainable, flexible basis for the construction program. Mr. Olson highlighted the successful elements of the transaction. Mr. Baratta and Mr. Henry provided details about the investor base.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey had questions about which projects could be completed with this bond sale. Mr. Abdalla responded by listing projects getting under way. Mr. Ramsey concluded by thanking staff, and remarking on the effort by the District to remain transparent, informed and knowledgeable about the details of this sale.

President Kronenberg talked about the extraordinary education for Board members through the bond program. She thanked the finance team and staff.

D. ACTION ITEMS

D.1 Acceptance of the Strategic Plan Report

Superintendent Harter introduced Jay Schenirer of Capital Impact / Third Plateau, consultant who shepherded the process for development of a new strategic plan through the generous donation from Chevron. Mr. Schenirer provided a detailed report on the final draft of the Strategic Plan 2014 - 2019. He described the purpose of plan, key changes, and managing the plan with the responsible party for accountability. Mr. Schenirer acknowledged and thanked partners who participated in the process. He also highlighted key points for implementation. Superintendent Harter provided more a more in-depth look at moving forward with implementation. He detailed the six key priorities, funding for their implementation and a path forward.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey said he liked the plan and spoke about investing in each child.

Mr. Groves said he was grateful that the document captured the voice of community. The District has a hefty job ahead and is off to a good start. He thanked Mr. Schenirer and Mr. Kaufman for their work.

Mr. Ramsey thanked the consultants and said he was pleased with the plan. He commented that he would like to see graduate students return and reflect on how the plan had made an impact on their lives.

Mr. Enos remarked that he thought the plan well intentioned and thought out. He also spoke about resources needed to carry out implementation in order to show the community that we believe in its youth.

Ms. Merriweather said she thought the plan was on the right track and that this was the best time for funding with Proposition 30 and the Local Control Funding Formula. She said she liked the framework to build, measure and strengthen the District. She thanked the team who participated in the process.

President Kronenberg acknowledged Andrea Bailey and Chevron's generous support and participation in the process for development of the plan. She remarked that the Steering Committee was made up of an extraordinary group of people from various levels of education, business and government. She said that she was impressed that the District has opportunity to fund this work.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval to accept the Strategic Plan Report. Ms. Merriweather seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, Ms. Merriweather, and President Kronenberg voting yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.2 El Cerrito High School Stadium Project Award of Contract

Mr. Fay reported that this award of contract was the final phase of a ten year master plan at the school. He detailed the bidding and asked the Board to approve the contract award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder after the expiration of the protest period.

Public Comment:

Janet Duckart, Judd Goodman, James Erickson

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey had questions about the award of contract for the fire sprinkler components. Mr. Fay responded that he expected to be able to issue the notice of award by the close of business this week.

Mr. Abdalla addressed the timeline for the bid protest period and next steps for notice of award and notice to proceed. Mr. Abdalla also responded with information about the process.

Ms. Merriweather asked Mr. Abdalla about outreach to the El Cerrito community. Mr. Abdalla responded.

Mr. Groves spoke about varying views of Board Members and communication with Rockway Avenue neighbors. Mr. Abdalla provided clarification. Mr. Fay said he will provide a response with enhancements to communicate with the

El Cerrito neighbors. He elaborated as to how the construction team is managing communication with neighbors of the construction site.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approve the El Cerrito High School Stadium Project Award of Contract. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, Ms. Merriweather, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

E.1 Project Status Report

Claire Din of BCA Architects provided updated information regarding the Downer playfield renovation project.

Mark Albertson of MA Architects reported on the renovation of the Richmond Swim Center on the Kennedy High School campus. He shared that the intent of the project was to correct defects of the building and mechanical features. Mr. John Bermuda of the City of Richmond explained staffing levels for the completed project with the Recreation and Parks Department developing pool programs for the facility.

Mr. Abdalla provided an update of other construction projects in the District.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey had questions about the Nystrom construction project.

E. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Enos spoke about the strategic plan and keeping faith with the community.

Mr. Ramsey reported that he had an exciting visit with his daughter at Sarah Lawrence College over Parent Weekend. He thanked Dr. Harter, Mr. Greer, and Ms. Rashidchi for the response to the Office of Civil Rights regarding the development of the District's Sexual Harassment Statement. He also thanked voters for passing bond measures that support school health centers, surveillance cameras, and other vital resources for students.

Ms. Merriweather spoke about moving forward with implementation of the Strategic Plan. She thanked the consultants and everyone who helped to make possible.

Mr. Groves thanked staff for working so hard with all the processes – the strategic plan, and Common Core State Standards. He said he looked forward to continued collaboration.

President Kronenberg commended the hard work and noted that it will continue. She applauded everyone who worked on strategic plan.

F. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – November 20, 2013

G. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:44 PM.

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