

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

February 12, 2014

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

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

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Carol Butcher, Executive Director K-12; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Linda Delgado, Coordinator Educational Services; Bob Evans, DeAnza Principal; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Julio Franco, Executive Director K-12; Luis Freese, Executive Director, Maintenance/Operations; Sylvia Greenwood, DeJean Principal; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Keith Holtslander, Director Facilities/Construction; Kibby Kleiman, Pinole Valley Principal; Ken McDaniel, Building Maintenance Supervisor; Tim Peel, Deputy Construction Program Manager; Barbara Penny-James, Ford Principal; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Lyn Potter, Director Curriculum & Instructional Services; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Reyna Touriel, Translator; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; LaDonna Williams, Nystrom Principal

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

Mr. Benjamin Gannon provided a report of activities at Richmond High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

None

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Enos moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

B.7 Minutes: January 29, 2014

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to approval of the minutes of January 29, 2014. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, and Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), voted yes, with President Ramsey abstaining, and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

B.9 WCCUSD Public Comment

None

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements

C.2 Acceptance of Donations

C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.4 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

C.5 Contracted Services

- C.6 Approve the following revised new job description: Director, Accountability/ Chief Data Officer**
- C.7 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
This item was pulled for separate action.
- C.8 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.9 Facilities Use Agreement with Bright Futures Growth & Development Center at El Sobrante Elementary School Site**
- C.10 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Vista AHS Parking Improvements**
59-1314: Read Across America - March 2, 2014
- C.12 Resolution No. 55-1314: Disabilities Awareness Month – March 2014**
- C.13 Resolution No. 57-1314: “Week of the School Administrator” March 2-8, 2014**

MOTION: Mr. Enos moved Approval of Consent Items C. 1 – C.6 and C.8 - C.13. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

- C.7 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
President Ramsey had questions about one item listed among the Engineering Services Contracts. He asked that this particular item be brought back to a future meeting for action.

MOTION: President Ramsey moved approval of Consent Item C. 7, excluding the contract regarding Swinerton Management Consulting. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 African-American History Month School Presentations and Celebrations

Ms. Rashidchi introduced and recognized Ms. Nancy Barker of Seniors in Action Now, Inc. for her work in the community and assistance in planning the events for the evening.

Student performances from Ford Elementary, El Cerrito High, Lincoln Elementary, Pinole Valley High, Grant Elementary, Nystrom Elementary, DeJean Middle, and Richmond High Schools presented a diverse Black History Celebration.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

D.2 Plans to add a JROTC Program at DeAnza High School

Principal Bob Evans provided information regarding the Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) and hopes to host the program at DeAnza High School. He explained that nearly four years ago, it was considered as a component to the other academies at the high school. He said staff contacted the program in fall 2011 to begin the process. The District will cover costs of \$100,000 over a two year period. In the third year, the Air Force will pick up the costs. Start-up costs include instructors, curriculum, uniforms, and other components.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Ramsey spoke about a full service community and not limiting school choices but offering a full spectrum of opportunities for students.

Mr. Enos spoke about the values in which people believe and agreed that this is an option for some students. He spoke about supporting young people willing to serve their country.

Mr. Groves agreed it necessary to provide this option to students. He spoke about the military providing social, professional and global mobility not offered otherwise. He fully supported moving ahead.

Ms. Merriweather asked about the time frame. Mr. Evans said if the application is submitted it could be implemented in the 2014-15 school year with approximately 60 students per class level. Recruitment would be offered as an open enrollment opportunity for students.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the District having the opportunity to add this program to enhance the diverse interests of students. She applauded Mr. Evans for being willing to support this opportunity.

Student Representative Benjamin Gannon asked whether other schools would benefit. Mr. Ramsey responded that over time, other schools would benefit similar to the work in other academies.

Superintendent Harter reiterated that he heard that the Board supports building the program into the budget and bringing it to DeAnza High School for the 2014-15 school year.

President Ramsey suggested giving it a two year commitment then looking for federal funding. He thanked Mr. Evans and his site for their efforts.

D.3 Technology E-Rate Report

Mary Phillips provided a report regarding E-Rate explaining a federally funded program to ensure schools and libraries have access to affordable telecommunications, including internet access and internal communications. She explained the services and new services becoming available as technology improves. She detailed what the District has applied for and the funding received.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Groves asked about the Priority 2 funding outlook for the neediest schools. Ms. Phillips responded that the outlook for federal funding at this level is gloomy with experts saying it does not look hopeful. She explained that the District will need to be careful because eligible services are changing. She said it appears that federal funding may potentially fund broadband and hardware.

President Ramsey spoke about the importance of seeking local providers for electronic demands on the general fund. He advised considering the ability to invest long term with capital investments for technology.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the funding stream remaining consistent, but being vigilant and proactive to pursue potential funding.

Mr. Groves asked about grant funding strategies. Ms. Phillips said that her department is actively pursuing this, being careful to determine whether grants meet District needs.

Ms. Merriweather asked when the Technology Plan would be available to the Board. Ms. Phillips responded that the Plan has gone to the Technology Committee for discussion, returning for approval in March and will come to the Board by the end of March. Ms. Merriweather asked about wireless costs for schools under Priority 2. Ms. Phillips responded for clarification.

Superintendent Harter explained that the poorest schools would not have wireless access without bond funding. President Ramsey explained that \$40 million was earmarked for technology over 8 years, with nearly half of that already used. He stressed the need to stay diligent in order to replenish these funds.

E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

E.1 Standing Reports

United Teachers of Richmond. In keeping with the spirit of the Black History celebration, President Diane Brown shared information about Carter G. Woodson and the birth of Negro History Month.

Safety and School Climate Committee. Ms. Merriweather recapped the February 6th meeting. She said discussion was held to develop ideas for dealing with parent conflicts on campus. She said that Dr. John Shields of ETR explained the education training and implementation for the District. Radio communication difficulty in some areas of the District was also discussed. Mr. Enos added that the committee asked school staff to re-evaluate their safety plans and work to update. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2014 at Pinole Valley High School.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi talked about the recent meeting held at DeAnza High School. She said topics included expansion of the dual language immersion program, professional development in mathematics and transitioning to the Common Core. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13 at DeAnza High School, 6:30 PM.

Youth Commission. Mr. Groves invited Student Representative Benjamin Gannon to review the recent weekend accomplishments. Mr. Gannon spoke about school visits and things seen. He said that the Commissioners saw good things that could be adapted across the District. He said they learned that many students are not aware of the college application process. While they met teachers who truly cared about their students, the Commissioners also saw that equipment and resources need updating. Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the unusual opportunity to visit other schools and speak candidly with the students' peers. She said the goal is to have the Youth Commission assist the Board in developing strategies for the District.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Ramsey announced a special meeting for February 27th. He said the recent meeting covered many subjects including construction budget approvals for Fairmont and Richmond High. The committee learned that trees at Peres Elementary are dying due to irrigation problems. Ms. Kronenberg spoke about Kennedy's Fab Lab, a collaboration with MIT, to be located in the former auto shop with Chevron's funding partnership. She said that discussion also included a report from the financial team regarding a potential bond ballot measure.

Superintendent Harter followed up by saying that a resolution will come to the Board for consideration of a bond measure ballot item at the February 26th meeting. He detailed a recent meeting of randomly selected, undecided voters who were interviewed after learning more about the construction program to see what impact the information would have for them. He said the feed-back was positive.

Ivy League Connection. Mr. Ramsey and Ms. Kronenberg spoke of student interviews for the various summer programs. Mr. Ramsey announced interest from the University of Chicago in partnering with the Ivy League Connection.

E.2 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

Board Member Enos left the dais.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Public Hearing and Adoption of Bargaining Proposal from Public Employees Union, Local One to the West Contra Costa Unified School District

President Ramsey opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

President Ramsey closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Groves moved approval of the Adoption of Bargaining Proposal from Public Employees Union, Local One to the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

F.2 Approval of Agreement with School Supervisors Association (SSA) / AB1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the SSA

President Ramsey opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:
None

President Ramsey closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Groves moved to approve the Agreement with School Supervisors Association (SSA) / AB1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement with the SSA. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

F.3 Helm’s Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) Public Hearing and Waiver Request

Ms. Rashidchi spoke about requesting approval for a State Board of Education waiver for the QEIA program at Helms Middle School. The state’s funding has provided for a robust program over seven years. Funding was to have ended this year. It was learned recently that funding can be extended one more year. With this approval, an additional year of funding of approximately \$900,000 will continue the program.

Mr. Enos returned to the dais.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to approve the Helm’s Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) Waiver Request. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Benjamin Gannon (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report

Mr. Abdalla provided a report on construction projects in the District.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
Ms. Merriweather asked about the opening of the Helms soccer fields. Mr. Abdalla responded.

President Ramsey had questions about the Coronado site construction. Mr. Abdalla provided information about an underground water well left from the early 1900’s which was recently uncovered.

G.2 Construction Project Status Update for El Cerrito High School Stadium & Field Replacement

Mr. Fay spoke about staff members addressing community concerns.

Tim Peel, Deputy Construction Project Manager, introduced the team working on the final phase of the stadium project; Architect Kevin MacQuarrie, Construction Manager Hector Deleon, and Project Manager Kareem Nassab. All assisted in providing a detailed review of the construction project.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

G.3 Project Update for Richmond Swim Center at Kennedy High School Update

Project Manager Karim Nassab provided an update regarding the bidding process for this project.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Ramsey asked when the current facility would close to the public. Mr. Fay responded that coordination with for closure will be handled by the City of Richmond's public works and recreation department. He said that the District has begun outreach to the community. This project is estimated to take 360 days.

G.4 2014 Pre-qualification Statute Process Update

Mr. Juan Garrahan, Project Manager, provided information on the program coordination for general contractors, and sub-contractors of mechanical, electrical and plumbing for projects \$1 million or over. He spoke about five upcoming projects that will require contracts to be responsive to the prequalification status.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Groves wished everyone a happy Presidents' Week recess.

Mr. Enos thanked staff for their work on all the projects going on.

Ms. Merriweather said she enjoyed the student performances.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke of the importance of the Black History Month celebration.

Student Representative Gannon said he appreciated the experience and thanked the Board for the opportunity to join the meeting.

President Ramsey thanked staff for the hard work with LCFF and getting information to the public regarding funding coming available. He saw optimism for student success. He recognized his sister Yetunde Ramsey and her birthday.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – February 26, 2014

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:49 P.M.

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

BH:dh

<u>TAG</u> Approved 3/12/14
