

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

May 6, 2015

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Groves called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Groves called the Public Session to order at 6:31 P.M.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

President Groves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

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

B.3 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Liz Block, Valerie Cuevas, Randall Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg

Staff Present: Julio Arroyo, Energy Conservation Manager; Elizabeth Carmody, Director Community Engagement; Denise Cifelli, Senior Administrative Assistant; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Luis Freese, District Engineering Officer; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent Business Services; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Keith Holtzlander, Director Facilities & Construction; Lisa LeBlanc, Associate Superintendent M & O/Bond Program; Vincent Meyer, Executive Director M & O; Eric Peterson, Director Special Education; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Lyn Potter, Director Educational Services; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Reyna Touriel, Translator; Marcus Walton, Communications Director; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

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

Ms. Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo provided a report of activities regarding Richmond High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to appoint Patrick Martin as Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts and Olanrewaju Ajayi, who will be Coordinator for Early Childhood Education, both appointments beginning with the 2015-16 school year.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to ratify action taken in Closed Session to appoint Patrick Martin as the Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts and Olanrewaju Ajayi as the Coordinator for Early Childhood Education. Ms. Block seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Groves requested to move Items B.8 and B.9 to the end of the agenda as the speaker was not available at the time and pull Item C.21 for discussion after Public Comment.

Ms. Block requested Item C.18 be pulled for discussion.

MOTION: Ms. Block moved approval of the agenda moving Items B.8 and B.9 to the end of the agenda and pulling Items C.18 and C.21 for discussion. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.7 Minutes: April 16, 2015; April 22, 2015; April 29, 2015

Public Comment:

Tom Panas, Ben Steinberg

Board Comment:

President Groves stated the comments from the public were correct and he did request an independent forensic examination.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to amend the Minutes of April 29, 2015 for Item C.1. replacing the words “independent investigation” with “independent forensic examination”. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

Amendment Approved May 20, 2015

“That we would hire an independent attorney who hasn’t worked with the district before to identify three or four forensic auditors who will then present their plan for the investigation to the Board. The Board will choose from that group an auditor that they feel best matches the investigation we want to do and then we will hire them to do the investigation.”

MOTION: Ms. Block moved to further amend the Minutes of April 29, 2015 for Item C.1. to include steps the Board had previously agreed to taking toward the independent investigation process which included hiring of an independent attorney not having worked with the district in the past and choosing a forensic auditor. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

MOTION: Mr. Block moved approval of the Minutes of April 16, 2015 and April 22, 2015 and amended Minutes of April 29, 2015. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.10 WCCUSD Public Comment

Sandi Brown, Amanda Henderson, Carlos Tobada, Bob Mandel

Due to the number of Public Comment speakers, the Board discussed lowering time limits.

MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved to limit Public Comment speakers to 1 minute each. Ms. Block seconded. Mr. Enos, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, Ms. Kronenberg voted no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

President Groves asked that Public Comment be delayed so that Items D.1 and D.2 could be heard in order to recognize student achievements.

MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved to hear items D.1 and D.2 then return to Public Comment. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Recognition of Students in Forensics Programs

Mr. Walton, Director of Communications introduced and recognized the students from El Cerrito and Pinole Valley High Schools who participated in the 2015 California State High School Speech Association State Tournament. Lev Corne and Leo Gould from El Cerrito High were awarded 2nd place in Policy Debate; Thomas Johnston and Jun Hui Zhou from Pinole Valley High were awarded 11th place in Policy Debate. Leo Gould, Thomas Johnston, and Sophia Schachair took a few minutes to thank the Board and comment on their experiences.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Groves congratulated the teams.

D.2 Class of 2015 Ed Fund Scholars Recognition

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Joel Mackey, Executive Director of West Contra Costa Education Fund, who presented certificates to the students receiving scholarships from the Ed Fund. The 66 scholars from 9 of WCCUSD's high schools were recognized. Pictures with the Board were taken after. The following students received certificates:

DeAnza High School

Jasmine Gill
Alexander Hagan
Tareke James
Jose Jimenez
Alfred Machacon
Linda Ngo
Cristina Pham
Martin Ponce
Hero Vo
Frederica Webster
Brizjon Wilright

El Cerrito High School

Lavonia Bobo
Monet Boyd
Lauren Darnell
Jay'La Donaville Smith
Maggie Li
Kenyatta Marcelous
Mareiana Pembroke
Justin Rodriguez
Jomoris Stewart
Keith Thomas
Daniella Vella
Akeilah Ward-Hale

Hercules High School

Jing-Yi Chung
Chi Chung
Latisha Katigbak
Vanessa McMillon Vanbuskirk
Kimaree McDonald Solomon
Brandon Wong

Kennedy High School

Carlos Arauz-Hernandez
RaTrail Armstead
Joan Binalinbing
Casina Butler
Luis Nunez
Francisco Ortiz
Luis Perez Rodriguez
Nasario Sylvester

Leadership Public Schools - Richmond

Luis Ledesma
Maria Nunez
Juliana Valencia

Middle College High School

Eva Arias Ramirez
Matthew Chamberlain
Serena Saelee
Kimiko Satterfield
Ashley Tejada

Pinole Valley High School

Quincy Chapple
Alexis Garcia
William Garcia
Tyler Ho
Andrea Munoz
Yann Picouleau
Brittany Tran
Jun Zhou

Richmond High School

Saidy Brizuela
Evelyn Corral Gonzales
Astrid Flores Castillo
Antonio Gonzales-Romero
Michael Jamison
Christian Medina
Adrian Navarro
Jesus Pedraza
Hannah Pham
Dennis Pimentel
Andrew Preston
Deisy Villalobos

Vista High School

Richard Howard

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

B.10 WCCUSD Public Comment (continued)

Vitalee Giammalro, Viki Waxman, Beth Silverstein, La Shante Smith, Maria Santa Cruz, Brian Scioia, Carmen Tejada, Marvette Harris, Ada Dimas, Bea Lieberman, Kristen Pursley, Doug Marques, Qiang Ma, Ralph Baum, Sara Rodriguez, Gail Mendes, Sonia Elias, Mairead Owens, Perla Espinoza, Glenna Hamilton, Ernestina Arteaga,

Guadalupe Gonzalea, John Irminy, Elin Hansen, Pat Miles, Maria L. De Santos, Julian Pont, James Sanders, Susan Billings, Jayne Nichols, Maria Hernandez, Andrea Duran, Sam Sciosin, Holly Ruff, Tyrone, Weems, Ulrike Bauer, Sarah Creeley, Ken Ryan, Ned Bach, Joanna Pace, Karen Van Winkle, Kristen Cason, Guillarmina Serrano, Nalleli Godinez, Eric Swabeck, Tracy La Freniere, Emily Santiago

Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo left the meeting at approximately 7:30 PM.
President Groves called a 10 minute break at 8:10 PM; Board reconvened at 8:20PM.

C. BUSINESS ITEM

- C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements**
- C.2 Acceptance of Donations**
- C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities**
- C.4 Contracts**
- C.5 Notice of Completions: Bid 1161224-01 Downer Elementary School Playfield Renovations, Bid 1271223-02 Harding Elementary School Exterior and Roof Repairs, and Bid 3621377-10 Pinole Valley High School Off-Site Parking & Traffic Signal**
- C.6 Resolution No. 73-1415 Regarding Education Protection Account (EPA) and Spending Plan for the 2015-16 School Year**
- C.7 Resolution No. 74-1415 Intention to Levy Assessments for Fiscal Year 2015-16, Preliminarily Approving Engineer's Report and providing for Notice of a Public Hearing**
- C.8 Routine Personnel Changes – Classified**
- C.9 Resolution No. 66-1415: Classified School Employee Week, May 17-23, 2015**
- C.10 Resolution No. 67 -1415: California "Day of the Teacher"**
- C.11 Approve the following New Job Description - Database Administrator**
- C.12 Local Plan Policies**
- C.13 Approval of District Local Control Accountability Plan Parent Committee Nominee**
- C.14 Sylvester Greenwood Academy / LPS Technology Equipment and Services Award of Contract**
- C.15 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
- C.16 Ratification of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.17 Ratification of Negotiated Change Orders – M&O**
- C.18 Crespi Middle School Restroom Renovation Phase 1 Award of Contract**
This item was pulled for separate discussion and action.
- C.19 Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment Agreement between WCCUSD and Contrax Furnishings for Classroom Furniture & Related Services (Coronado Elementary School Campus Replacement Project**
- C.20 Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment Agreement between WCCUSD and Contrax Furnishings for Classroom Furniture & Related Services (Sylvester Greenwood Academy / LPS Campus Replacement Project)**
- C.21 Harmon Knolls Campus Demolition Project Award of Contract**
This item was pulled for separate discussion and action.
- C.22 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Coronado Elementary School Moving Services**
This item was pulled to be read in and for separate discussion and action.
- C.23 Appointment to the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee**

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved Approval of Consent Items C. 1 – C.17, C.19-20 and C.23. Ms. Block seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

- C.18 Crespi Middle School Restroom Renovation Phase 1 Award of Contract**
Ms. Block requested an explanation of how the contractor was chosen as they were not the lowest bid. Ms. LeBlanc provided clarification and explanation.

MOTION: Ms. Block moved Approval of Consent Items C. 18. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

- C.21 Harmon Knolls Campus Demolition Project Award of Contract**

Public Comment:

Terrence Boyd, Royle Roberts, Otis E. Rounds, Reggie Humdy, Bob Redlo, Maria Sahagun, Chad A. Provost

Board Comment:

Ms. Cuevas questioned liability issues. Ms. LeBlanc and Mr. Freese responded. Ms. Cuevas also asked about forming a partnership or selling real estate. Superintendent Harter outlined the process for surplus properties and reiterated the reasons for recommending demolition.

Ms. Block requested the Board find a way to accommodate Ujima Lodge #35's request for use. If not the Harmon Knolls location, possibly assist in finding a suitable location.

Ms. Kronenberg reiterated the complicated process surrounding Harmon Knolls and the need to look for other ways to partner with Ujima.

Mr. Enos stated his support for the Lodge but not wanting any child in an unsafe location. He also agreed the District should assist in looking for alternate locations.

President Groves stated he is a supporter of the Lodge and that staff and the Board support Ujima's work but are unable accommodate them at the Harmon Knolls site.

Ms. Cuevas also valued the work Ujima does in the community. She felt there was a lot more work to be done.

MOTION: Ms. Block moved Approval of Consent Item C.21 to continue with the demolition of the Harmon Knolls site. President Groves seconded. Ms. Block and President Groves voted yes. Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, and Ms. Kronenberg voted no. There were no abstentions and no absences. Motion failed 2-3-0-0.

C.22 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Coronado Elementary School Moving Services

Ms. LeBlanc read a revised item into the record.

MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved Approval of Consent Item C.22. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Alejandra Barragan Hidalgo (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.3 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) Actions/Services Report #4

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Lyn Potter, Director Educational Services, Eric Peterson, Director Special Education and Elizabeth Carmody, Director Community Engagement who presented updated information on the thirteen of the LCAP Actions and Services. The presentation focused on the actions completed and next steps.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Ms. Block questioned the effectiveness of programs moving forward into the next year and what data was there to show the effectiveness to ensure goals being met. Superintendent Harter discussed student and climate surveys. Ms. Rashidchi gave examples of data and benchmark assessment data that staff members review.

Ms. Cuevas asked whether or not the District was staffed appropriately to grow Community Engagement to reach and involve more parents and community members. Ms. Carmody explained the training models and what she saw for volunteer growth and training. Staff continued to discuss the options available and best way to build capacity through Parent University and Efficacy and parents ability to navigate through the school system.

Ms. Kronenberg asked Ms. Carmody to talk about the community funders and how the District is working with them to leverage partnerships. She also wanted to know the role of the outreach workers and how their time is utilized which Ms. Carmody explained.

Discussion continued around teacher and parent communication, special education and how the District is working to leverage all resources in the best interest of the students.

B.8 Request to Address the Board – Dr. Fatima Alleyne

Dr. Alleyne spoke about her feelings on educational equity and about her school experiences growing up and what she saw for her children.

B.9 Request to Address the Board – Ari Alleyne

Master Alleyne spoke about his experiences as a student at Caliber Charter School and Washington Elementary School.

E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

E.1 Standing Reports

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Elizabeth Bundschu-Mooney, Committee Chairperson, noted the resolution and roster before the Board and explained the committee's due diligence reviewing the ballot language detail and board adopted budget and expenses for the parcel tax. She also reported that the committee will include a separate balance sheet in the financial audit reporting parcel tax revenues and expenditures allowing for additional transparency. She announced that a full committee roster was also before the Board for approval.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi announced the next meeting on May 12 at DeAnza High School.

Community Budget Oversight Committee. Ms. Block reported on the last meeting of April 29 noting the group received a bond program financial update, project status update and met counsel who will be attending all future meetings. She also stated the committee tabled an item to accept the financial report pending additional information. Delegates to attend the CalBOC statewide conference were chosen. She also read a brief statement from Yvette Rico, Chairperson of the committee.

College and Career Readiness Committee. Ms. Rashidchi reported the committee will host an Academy Awards event on May 13th at El Cerrito High School beginning at 5:30 pm. The committee has begun a new partnership with Contra Costa Community College for dual enrollment for law academy students for the fall. She also noted that DeAnza High School received a letter from State Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson congratulating them on becoming a California Gold Ribbon School with a celebration on May 19 in San Francisco.

Facility Subcommittee. Ms. Kronenberg stated the next meeting is May 12 at 4:00 pm.

Ivy League Connection. Ms. Kronenberg reported that all students have been admitted to Universities and they are currently hosting dinners uniting students and alumni.

Safety and School Climate Committee. Mr. Enos reported the last meeting was held at the new San Pablo Community Center, and that Contra Costa County has prepared a disaster preparedness awareness pamphlet the District will use for training.

Technology Subcommittee. Ms. Phillips reported the next meeting is May 11 at the IT department beginning at 4:00 pm.

Youth Commission. President Groves reported the next meeting for May 12 at Helms Middle School and will include meeting with the Title IX Coordinator. He said that adults will be asked to leave while the youth meets with the coordinator.

E.2 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

At 10:00 PM, President Groves asked Board members whether or not to continue with the agenda. A decision was to continue and reassess at 10:30 pm, if needed.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Public Hearing on the Governing Board's Proposed Adoption of Resolution Nos. 70-1415 & 71-1415 to Approve the Energy Conservation Services Contracts for Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit at Multiple School Sites

Ms. LeBlanc noted that Items F.1 through F.4 were interrelated enabling the District to pursue money from the California Clean Energy Jobs Act Fund. Vincent Meyer, Executive Director M & O, provided information on the Act and the LED Lighting Retrofit projects. The District is looking to receive funding and he explained the sequence of events and next steps.

President Groves opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Ms. Block asked whether LED lighting was being installed in new schools. Mr. Meyer and Mr. Freese responded stating they are looking into this for upcoming projects that have not yet been designed.

Mr. Groves questioned life of the lighting and Mr. Meyer explained lighting will significantly increase and lower costs over time.

President Groves closed the public hearing.

F.2 Resolution No. 72-1415 Making Determinations and Adopting Notices of Exemption Relating to Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Ms. Block moved approval of Resolution No. 72-1415 Making Determinations and Adopting Notices of Exemption Relating to Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.3 Resolution No. 70-1415 Approving the Energy Conservation Services Contract for Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit at Collins, Grant, Hanna Ranch and Lake Elementary Schools with Energy Conservation Options

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Enos moved approval of Resolution No. 70-1415 Approving the Energy Conservation Services Contract for Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit at Collins, Grant, Hanna Ranch and Lake Elementary Schools with Energy Conservation Options. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.4 Resolution No. 71-1415 Approving the Energy Conservation Services Contract for Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit at Richmond High School with Energy Management Technologies

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Resolution No. 71-1415 Approving the Energy Conservation Services Contract for Design, Installation, and Commissioning of Lighting Retrofit at Richmond High School with Energy Management Technologies. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.5 Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC Report)

Ms. Gamba introduced the resolution approved by the CBAC.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Ms. Block raised concerns relating to the categories funded by the parcel tax versus the ballot language. Ms. Gamba provided history on the parcel tax explaining how programs listed came about and funding options. She also briefly explained the role of the CBAC.

Ms. Cuevas asked for clarification on unrestricted funds and usage, and ballot language. Ms. Gamba provided clarification.

MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved approval of the Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) Report. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes. Ms. Block voted no. There were no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

F.6 Formation of a Subcommittee on Board Governance

Public Comment:

Tom Panas, Joanna Pace

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Ms. Block moved approval of Formation of a Subcommittee on Board Governance. Ms. Cuevas seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Initial Public Hearing for Summit Schools

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

G.2 Project Status Report

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Enos commented that there is only 5 ½ weeks left of the academic year and lots to accomplish.

Ms. Block said she enjoyed learning about the Universal Design for Learning and hoped to see a presentation to the Board describing their role. She also wanted to see more community outreach to engage parents.

Ms. Kronenberg commended all those that came out to speak on behalf of the teachers, and for the people involved with the My Brother's Keeper event. She noted she will be attending the next parent University meeting.

Ms. Cuevas thanked staff and the Board for their hard work and for continuing to pursue a responsive school system, stepping up to all the challenges that have arisen.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – May 20, 2015

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Groves adjourned the meeting at 10:39 PM.

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

BH:dc

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>R. Enos</u> Approved as Amended 5/20/15</p>
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