

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

January 30, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Audrey Miles, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. BOARD ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

The Board discussed committee assignments and President Kronenberg will bring the assignments for approval to the February 10, 2010 meeting.

IV. CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF GOVERNANCE ISSUES

Christopher Maricle, from the California School Boards Association, facilitated a discussion of Board priority setting for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year and into the 2010-11 school year. The Board discussed the challenging situation that it faces this year with the continued deterioration in the State budget. The Board also discussed the challenges for the District and all District employees around the caps on health benefits, the furloughs, the increases of class sizes, and the impact of having fewer staff to do the same amount of work for this year. The Board noted that this would be a difficult year because of all the anticipated retirements at the end of the 2009-10 school year with several schools losing their principals and others losing key faculty members to retirement, and noting that the Human Resources Department will have a particular challenge in filling positions at the same quality as those teachers and administrators who are retiring.

Dr. Harter provided the Board with an update on performance around the District's six goals, including Student Achievement, Accountability, Equity, Safety, Community Engagement and Stewardship. Then Mr. Maricle led the Board in a discussion clarifying the success indicators, the overall objectives, and the Board's level of satisfaction with the performance in the goal area. Once the Board had finished that review the Board began to discuss, within those goals, priorities for the remainder of 2010 and the 2010-11 school year. The Board identified Student Achievement as the top priority for showing some improvement over the course of the next year and a half; the second priority of generating resources for the District; and a third priority of continued stewardship of the public's trust and resources. The Board noted the importance of maintaining a focus and monitoring both safety in the schools and reviewing of the budget as the State budget unfolds through legislative action later this spring and summer.

Board members thanked Mr. Maricle for his facilitation.

V. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 3:55 PM.