

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

March 24, 2010

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:49 PM.

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 to the public.

B.3 Roll Call

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

Board Members Absent: Charles Ramsey

Staff Present: André Bell, Executive Director Business Services/Bond; Patricia Calvert, Director Certificated Employees; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Otilia Espinosa, Interpreter; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Erin Fleming, Director Classified Employees; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Supervisor; Emily Millar, Director Employee Relations; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer.

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative Suzanna Tran, representing El Cerrito High School and Youth Commission

Ms. Tran said it was a great experience to be serving on the Board this evening. She said she was looking forward to Spirit Week next week at El Cerrito High School.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel seven (7) students and suspend those expulsions for placement within the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the expulsion of seven (7) students, suspending those expulsions for placement in the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond abstaining and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 3-0-1-1.

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve a settlement agreement in a student matter.

Motion: Ms. Miles moved approval of the vote to approve a settlement agreement in a student matter. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve the administrative appointments for Extended Learning 2009-2010 as follows: Roxanne Brown-Garcia and Nancy Ivey, Principal and AP at Kennedy; Gabe Chilcott principal at ECHS; Julian Szot principal at El Cerrito Middle; Julio Franco for the high school program at Crespi; Rachel Bartlett-Preston principal of the middle school program at Crespi; Pat Martin and April Scott as principal and AP at DeJean; Denise Weiss and Darlene Almeida as principals at the special education centers at Tara Hills and Fairmont respectively; Olanrewaju Ajayi principal at the site-based program at Verde; Jean Hansen for the site-based program at Peres; Kim Moses principal at Stege; Alicia Azcarraga principal at Riverside; Wendy Forrest principal at Montalvin; Jeannette Ramirez principal at Ford; and Eddie Scruggs-Smith principal at Coronado.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the vote taken in Closed Session to approve the administrative appointments for Extended Learning 2009-2010. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

Public Comment: Jerome Smith, Michael Parker

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to approve and adopt the agenda, moving Items D.1, D.2 and D.3 before the Consent Items. Mr. Thurmond seconded, moving Item F.2 to follow Item D.3. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond, Ms. Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.7 Minutes: March 3, 2010

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to approve the Minutes of March 3, 2010. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond, Ms. Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Recognition of 2009-2010 District Spelling Bee Winners

Linda Jackson recognized the winners of the district-wide Spelling Bee and presented certificates of recognition to first place winner Monica Slaton (DeJean Middle), second place winner Maya Garriga (Portola Middle) and third place winner Janine Menor (Hercules Middle). Ms. Slaton thanked the Board for honoring her tonight, encouraged other participants to keep trying and thanked those who supported her. Ms. Jackson recognized everyone who participated and thanked the hosts and judges.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Ms. Miles congratulated the winners and all the students who participated and spoke of the importance of the support of the extended family.

Mr. Medrano said he was pleased to serve as a judge and thanked the parents who supported their students.

Mr. Thurmond acknowledged the winners' success and accomplishment and expressed congratulations.

President Kronenberg spoke of the importance of spelling and not relying on spell check which she said is wrong 17% of the time. She expressed congratulations to everyone involved.

D.2 Tribute to César Chávez

Susan Dunlap, Coordinator of EL Services, introduced Lisa Levy, Principal of Washington Elementary School. Ms. Levy introduced two groups, 1st and 4th graders from Washington's Dual Emersion Language Academic Program, to sing and read in honor of César Chávez Day. Ms. Rashidchi recognized teachers Mr. Brandow and Mrs. Darson for bringing the student presentations.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano honored those involved in the struggle of human rights and dedicated a quote from Berthold Brecht in their memory. He spoke about his visit to Montalvin Elementary where he heard Anthony Chavez speak about his grandfather and the importance of community service, and thanked those who performed.

Mr. Thurmond thanked the students for their presentations and great tribute to César Chávez. He spoke about how we benefit from the struggle of those who have gone before us and the importance of bilingual education for our district. Ms. Miles spoke about our responsibility to stand up against injustice.

President Kronenberg spoke about Chávez's message of having a life dedicated to service and how the struggle for working people is not over. She said the opportunity to serve continues on and that this is a time to take action. She thanked the performers and teachers who did an extraordinary job.

D.3 Recognition of the El Cerrito High School Athletic Staff and Supporters

Mr. Greer recognized Executive Director Linda Jackson and El Cerrito High School Principal Jason Reimann for their extraordinary action and efforts in response to injured student David Gurganious on March 2. Ms. Jackson introduced

Mr. Reimann who spoke about the event and recognized particular individuals who were instrumental in the outcome. He spoke of the opportunity that arose for making positive changes.

Public Comment: Al Kirkman

Board Comment:

Ms. Tran expressed pride of being a student at El Cerrito High School and said it was wonderful how everyone pulled together in the time of crisis.

Ms. Miles recognized that the entire El Cerrito High School community came together as a whole to support the student. She spoke in support of providing continued CPR training to staff and students.

Mr. Thurmond said he is thankful that Mr. Gurganious is okay and has returned to school. He thanked everyone who aided him and said he was thankful for our partners who have provided defibrillators and training.

Mr. Medrano commended the El Cerrito community and staff for responding so quickly and for working in collaboration with the county and with Red Cross. He favors bringing the defibrillators to all schools where sports are played and training for all coaches.

Ms. Kronenberg honored Mr. Reimann and encouraged Gauchero pride and recognition. She said how much she appreciated everyone in their efforts and for setting a tone of leadership for other districts to have defibrillators available and accessible to everyone.

Mr. Greer commented that since this incident the District has received a large donation from Chevron to continue to work to have this resource available in our secondary schools.

F.2 Budget Development 2010-11 and K-3 Class Size Reduction

Ms. Gamba provided a brief update and background to the Board on the plan to continue to offer class size reduction in 2010-11 at the same levels as 2009-10. Ms. Gamba explained that as directed by the Board at the Budget Study Session of March 15, the remaining \$2 million balance in the deferred maintenance fund will be transferred for use to support class size reduction in 2010-11.

Ms. Rashidchi spoke about also using federal funds in an innovative way to support this K-3 CSR initiative, cautioning that this is only a one-year solution that could not be guaranteed beyond 2010-11. She spoke about reductions to professional development and no longer having a categorical cushion in order to support the initiative.

Ms. Gamba provided information on the plans to move ahead should this initiative be approved.

Public Comment: Kristen Pursley, Ken Ryan, Valena M. Williams, Jr., Leslie Reckler, Ellen Hartigan-O'Connor, Veronica Sanchez, Glenn Corley, Susan Billings, Nathan Jackson, Steffi Kaiser, Patrick Tahara, Catherine Mercurio, Carolyn Day flowers, Natalie van Linder, David Yarnell, Matt Stewart, Charles Cowens, Lloyd Coyne, Deborah Lane, Laurel Gillespie, Anna Porter, Patricia Miles, Pixie Hayward Schickele

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano inquired about the categorical cushion and flexible monies and money taken from the Adult Ed reserve fund.

Ms. Gamba responded.

Ms. Miles said that the Board is committed to do the best possible for class size reduction but that the funding is not there, and that there is concern for possible further cuts with the state budget announcement in May. She inquired about the percentage of the parcel tax that supports the class size reduction program and the percentages of other districts that do not support class size reduction.

Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Thurmond acknowledged the staff for identifying funds to keep class sizes smaller. He expressed additional concerns about the impact that increased class sizes will have and how to offset those impacts asking for additional dialogue. He asked what additional dollar amount went into the class size reduction.

Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Thurmond inquired about additional funding for CSR over the deferred maintenance contribution.

Ms. Rashidchi and Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Thurmond inquired about the cost to reduce class size in the K-3 grades even further and about the plan for rescinding the layoff notices.

Ms. Romeo provided information regarding the number of layoff notices representing class size reduction.

Ms. Miles inquired about how rescinding notices next week would impact the budget in light of potential changes to the state budget in May.

Ms. Gamba responded and spoke of possible options that would stop gap any further problems.

President Kronenberg spoke of partnering with other groups to find a way for local funding for school districts, as state funding is only being provided at the most basic level.

Mr. Medrano commented on his experience at the Richmond Chamber, when the Aide to the Governor said, "You're getting the funding that you need."

President Kronenberg asked for a motion.

Mr. Thurmond moved that we “accept this transfer so that we maintain class sizes at their current levels, and that we convene a group to look for revenue to help make further reductions to class size and help us deal with our desire to maintain adult education, and to pursue any form of revenue from the state to local levels to provide the kind of quality education that we want from primary to secondary to adult education.”

Mr. Medrano seconded.

Ms. Miles asked for clarification from Mr. Thurmond regarding the nature of the group he referenced.

Mr. Thurmond said that in addition to staff we could pull in other stakeholders who bring another perspective, and look at all possible sources.

Ms. Miles expressed concern with connecting the establishment of a group to approval of this budget item, suggesting they may be two separate items.

President Kronenberg asked Ms. Romeo for comment.

Ms. Romeo said what she heard is there is “a motion to approve the item as is and a direction to the staff and to the community to look for all revenues to try to address other class size issues as well as any other issues in the district and that could be not just staff only but outside sources as well.”

Motion: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Budget Development 2010-11 and K-3 Class Size Reduction with direction to staff, the community and other outside sources to look for all revenues to try to address all class size issues as well as any other issues in the district. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond, Ms. Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements

C.2 Acceptance of Donation

C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.4 Contracted Services

C.5 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

C.6 Master Contracts for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services

C.7 Resolution No. 79-0910: Directing Preparation of Annual Report - MRAD

This item was pulled for discussion to follow the Consent Items.

C.8 Notification of Claims Rejected

C.9 Routine Personnel Changes - Classified

C.10 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated

C.11 Certificated Personnel Changes

C.12 Approval of Sabbatical Leave Requests for 2010-2011

This item was pulled for discussion to follow the Consent Items.

C.13 Approve Job Descriptions: Glazier, Mailroom Technician/Delivery Worker, Warehouse Worker/Driver, Senior Warehouse Worker

C.14 Approval of School Calendar for 2011-2012

This item was pulled for discussion to follow the Consent Items.

C.15 Approval of Additional Program Management General Conditions Reimbursable Expenses

C.16 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) New Appointment and Reappointments

C.17 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.18 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.19 Approval of Board Members to Attend Conference

This item was pulled for discussion to follow the Consent Items.

C.20 Resolution No. 77-0910: Day of Recognition for César Chávez - March 31, 2010

Motion: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the Consent Items C.1-C.6, C.8-11, C.13, C.15-C.18 and C.20. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond, Ms. Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

Motion: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the Consent Item C. 8 Notification of Claims Rejected. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Ms. Tran (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 3-1-0-1.

Ms. Tran left the meeting at 9:00 PM.

C.7 Resolution No. 79-0910: Directing Preparation of Annual Report - MRAD

Public Comment: Charles Cowens

Motion: Ms. Miles moved approval of Consent Item C.7 Resolution No. 79-0910: Directing Preparation of Annual Report - MRAD. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and with Mr. Thurmond and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 3-0-0-2.

C.12 Approval of Sabbatical Leave Requests for 2010-2011

Public Comment: Al Kirkman

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond said that in light of the money that had been taken from professional development there must still be support on some level.

Motion: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Item C.12 Approval of Sabbatical Leave Requests for 2010-2011. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

C.14 Approval of School Calendar for 2011-2012

Public Comment: Greg Whaling

Board Comment:

President Kronenberg asked Ms. Romeo for comment.

Ms. Romeo said that the decision was made to designate the non-work day as the day before Thanksgiving to try to work it into a long weekend. She said this was discussed and agreed to by all four employee groups.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Item C.14 Approval of School Calendar for 2011-2012. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

C.19 Approval of Board Members to Attend Conference

Public Comment: Greg Whaling, Charles Cowens

Board Comment:

Superintendent Harter spoke on behalf of Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg and the National School Board Association's Magna Award Winner. He said that our two Board Members organized this program over the last four years, raising funds independently to make it possible to send students to Ivy League colleges and universities. Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg will go to Chicago to receive the award as part of the National School Board's Convention, which is a huge honor for the district and a reflection of their hard work.

Ms. Miles moved approval, and spoke of the hard work and dedication by President Kronenberg and Mr. Ramsey and praised them for bringing recognition to the District.

Mr. Thurmond seconded and congratulated President Kronenberg, Mr. Ramsey and the students who did the hard work to receive this national recognition.

Mr. Medrano commended the Ivy League Connection and said he was impressed with how the program has grown and has received national recognition.

President Kronenberg spoke of the odds of winning against 15,000 school districts. She said she is proud to accept the award, for the program is nationally known and acclaimed, and recognition will bring national positive publicity.

Motion: Ms. Miles moved approval of Consent Item C.19 Approval of Board Members to Attend Conference. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

D.4 Report on Student Demographics

Ms. Gamba presented a summary of the annual student demographic report which projects trends in school and district enrollment over the next ten years. She said that the ten year projection shows the population will remain stable overall with a slight decline over the next couple of years followed by a little growth. She said the report should provide assurance with decisions the Board is making around school facilities.

Public Comment: Catherine Mercurio

Board Comment:

Superintendent Harter responded to comments made by Ms. Mercurio and the problem of reporting birthrate data due to the two zip codes in Kensington.

Mr. Thurmond commented on the census count that is occurring and inquired whether there is anything happening within our District that ties this to the census count and funding the District could receive.

Superintendent Harter responded speaking about the District's active support of community participation in the census.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether engaging the community in this way could result in increased enrollment data.

Superintendent Harter responded.

D.5 Standing Reports

Youth Commission. Student Board Representative Suzanna Tran provided an update of events including the formation of committees to handle the many proposals to promote safety awareness, and recently considered improvements on the nutritional health of students. Mr. Thurmond acknowledged Ms. Tran's work on the Youth Commission and spoke about a resolution on nutrition and wellness that will be brought to the April 28 meeting for Board consent.

Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC). Charles Cowens, Chair, announced the next meeting on March 25 and the topics to be discussed. He reported on the trip to the EdSource Forum on March 19, also attended by Mr. Medrano. He suggested that the CBAC work with Mr. Thurmond with regard to the formation of a group to bring additional revenue to the District.

Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC). Robert Studdiford reported on the meeting that occurred earlier in the evening, the approval of the 2008 Annual Report, and acceptance of the financial audit for June 30, 2009. The next meeting will be 6:00 PM, April 28 at the Facilities Operation Center.

Bayside Council PTA. Christina Slamon, President, announced a special meeting 7:00 PM, April 1 to vote to endorse Measure D. The next regular meeting will be 7:00 PM, April 26, when elections will be held. She asked for volunteers for five open positions and invited the Youth Commission to make a presentation.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano provided a summary report of the meeting on March 9 at the Facilities Operation Center. He reported on approval of restarting the site committee and proceeding with schematic design phase of the Leadership Public School and Gompers Continuation High School Project and demolition of the existing Gompers buildings. He announced the next meeting will be 4:00 PM, April 13.

Safety Committee. Mr. Thurmond provided a summary of the last meeting including a review of the District's cell phone and uniform policies. The next meeting is on April 21, at Gompers. President Kronenberg spoke about the importance of challenging students with rigor and the connection to safety with staying in school and success.

Ivy League Connection. President Kronenberg provided an update, speaking about the development of websites for the three cohorts going to Brown, Cornell and Columbia at IvyLeagueConnection.blogspot.com. She spoke about the orientation meeting for this summer's participants.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi announced the next meeting at 6:30 PM, March 30 at Vista Hills.

D.6 In Memory of Members of the School Community

Mr. Medrano read from an essay written by Marlene Aguirre who passed away February 26, at the age of 17. The essay was written in response to a Richmond High School class assignment "This I Believe."

Superintendent Harter recognized contributions of other members of the community who have passed away.

E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Harter provided a report of events in District schools.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment

Ken Ryan, Kristen Pursley, Michael Beer, Jerome Smith, Catherine Mercurio, Eduardo Martinez, Roberto Reyes, Mary Bridges, Al Kirkman, Christina Slamon, David Miller, Greg Whaling, Robert Studdiford, Charles Cowens.

Mr. Thurmond briefly left the dais, returning at 10:15 PM.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Resolution No. 78-0910: In Support of the Local Control of Local Classrooms Funding Act

President Kronenberg introduced this resolution and provided background for this initiative to reduce the parcel tax threshold from 66 2/3% to 55% and allow school districts to increase the success rate for the number of parcel taxes that are passed.

Public Comment: Robert Studdiford, Catherine Mercurio, Charles Cowens, Christina Slamon.

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano moved approval and said he enthusiastically supports this resolution. He said it is time to regain local control.

Mr. Thurmond seconded saying he sees the parcel tax as part of the mix of ways to obtain revenue to help support our schools. He also spoke in support of passage of an oil severance tax and other tax vehicles to fund education.

Ms. Miles said she recommends pursuing this option and that she looks forward to the cooperation of the Kensington group and other organizations to coordinate efforts.

Ms. Kronenberg said that this opportunity is the one most dramatically specific to the District. She encouraged everyone to sign the petition and referred them to www.improveschoolfunding.com.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Resolution No. 78-0910: In Support of the Local Control of Local Classrooms Funding Act. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Thurmond, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Ramsey absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Designation of Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools

Nia Rashidchi shared information about what Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools really means to our District. She explained that new state and federal legislation associated with ARRA, School Improvement Grant and Race to the Top legislation requires California and all states to identify the states persistently low achieving schools and requires the lowest 5% of those schools identified to implement one of four intervention models beginning in the 2010-11 school year. She spoke about the process of obtaining funding and plans and strategies for improvement.

Public Comment: Pixie Hayward Schickele

Ms. Rashidchi recognized Ms. Hayward Schickele and her efforts to work together to make this a doable process in the best interest of our students.

Board Comment:

Ms. Miles asked Ms. Rashidchi to clarify why different schools were originally listed.

Ms. Rashidchi responded that the California Department of Education calculations changed due to a change in criteria.

Mr. Thurmond said that the summary Ms. Rashidchi provided was clear and helpful and asked how the distinction was being made between implementation at Lincoln and planning for Helms and DeAnza.

Superintendent Harter responded that the decision was based on a strategic analysis, that Lincoln is in its eighth year of program improvement, was under restructuring, and being the smallest school with the most capacity offered the best chance for funding. Additionally, he spoke about the potential difficulty replacing so many teachers at Helms and DeAnza in the short time available.

Ms. Rashidchi provided additional comments and agreed that the best chance for funding is for Lincoln.

Mr. Thurmond inquired about the designation of planning for Helms and DeAnza and asked whether after the planning year the District would be required to implement something for DeAnza and Helms.

Ms. Rashidchi said the designation of “planning” fit with the state’s categorization and said that after the planning year, the District would be required to implement a plan for DeAnza and Helms.

Mr. Thurmond inquired about core competencies and rehiring of teachers.

Ms. Rashidchi responded and indicated additional information would be brought back to the Board through the Academic Subcommittee and Board meetings.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether the principal at Lincoln would be retained, and Ms. Rashidchi responded yes.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether any trends had been identified that run consistent for all three schools.

Ms. Rashidchi spoke about the need for targeted professional development, alignment of curriculum instruction and assessment pacing guides, a parental involvement factor, and an accountability system.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about bringing parents, teachers, students and staff together to brainstorm and inquired whether there any trends have been identified around attendance, truancy and the relation to successful test scores.

Ms. Rashidchi said that attendance has been one of the focus areas at Lincoln where there is an outreach coordinator on site targeting attendance.

Ms. Miles noted that a great deal of work has already been done by the District as a whole and that there is already a plan in place with regard to the total LEA plan.

Mr. Medrano inquired about the involvement of the school site council and whether there is a functioning parent group at each of the three schools.

Ms. Rashidchi responded that there is a school site council at each school and offered to provide additional information regarding the level of functioning of each one.

Mr. Medrano asked whether the heavy drop in December attendance was due to students leaving the county and going home to visit.

Ms. Rashidchi responded yes and Mr. Medrano spoke about finding an innovative way of dealing with that and offered to help with the Spanish speaking parents.

President Kronenberg spoke about the competitive process and asked about the cost of the application, what funding is available and how many schools were applying statewide.

Ms. Rashidchi responded and said she believes the district will be highly competitive with Lincoln Elementary School.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether we have identified the models we will be pursuing for DeAnza and Helms.

Ms. Rashidchi responded.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about the state's failure to properly fund schools. He asked about the total cost of our ideal plan should the funds not be received.

Ms. Rashidchi said she would provide the information, which still needs to be developed.

Mr. Thurmond asked to keep the Board and community informed and move forward now on the turnaround plan.

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

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Medrano spoke about his attendance at the Richmond Chamber meeting this morning and the comments of the Governor's Aide in light of news about the governor's plan to cut current K-12 levels by \$1.9 billion.

Ms. Miles extended prayers to Mr. Ramsey and his family on behalf of his mother who is very ill.

Mr. Thurmond extended prayers to the Ramsey family and best wishes to all families celebrating the holidays.

President Kronenberg spoke about finding 21 billion dollars for education in California through proposed changes to taxes, closing corporate loopholes, and increased license fees.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – April 14, 2010

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 11:26 PM.

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

BH:pr

<u>AAM</u> Approved 4-14-10
