

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

July 13, 2011

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Charles Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:35PM.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Harter 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: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Elaine Merriweather, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Director Facilities Construction; Martin Coyne, Executive Director; Rosa Cornejo, Staff Secretary; Susan Dunlap, Coordinator Ed Services; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Josh Herrera, Electronics Technician; David Luongo, Principal; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Ann Reinhagen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer

B.4 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the following administrative appointments for 2011-2012:

Elementary School Principals:

Olanrewaju Ajayi – Olinda
Carol Butcher – Stewart

High School Principal:

David Luongo – El Cerrito

Vice Principal Elementary:

Jawan Eldridge – Peres

K-12 Instructional Specialist:

Nya Flores – Downer
Stephanie Serrano – King
Ruby Gonzalez – Lincoln
Julie Patten – Verde

Adult Education Principal:

Haidee Foust

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointments for 2011-2012. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Ms. Merriweather and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the agenda with moving item D.1 to follow B.6. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.6 Minutes: June 28, 2011

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the Minutes of June 28, 2011. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

This item was moved to follow D.1.

D.1 Achievement Gap

Superintendent Harter gave a presentation on the District's Achievement Gap. Superintendent Harter introduced Mr. Michael Gonzalez, consultant from the California Department of Education. Mr. Gonzalez provided a presentation on Essential Program Components (EPCs) for student learning improvement and closing the achievement gap.

Public Comment:

Diane Brown

Board Comment:

Ms. Merriweather said she felt that the piece missing in the Essential Program was parent and community involvement which she believes is a big component for student achievement.

Mr. Medrano asked for clarification on the term "platoon children". Mr. Gonzalez explained. Mr. Medrano also asked if students would only be assigned to senior teachers. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the neediest students would be placed with the teachers that are more successful. Mr. Medrano expressed his excitement about the program and the need for it.

Mr. Kronenberg asked if there was a component in the program for parent and community involvement. Mr. Gonzalez explained that based on research there was disparity in terms of the parent involvement. They have found the same results at different levels of parent involvement, which wasn't a component initially in the program. Ms. Kronenberg asked if there is a list of districts that have implemented the program. Mr. Gonzalez responded that Garden Grove is the only district in California with similarities to WCCUSD showing improvement.

Mr. Thurmond asked Mr. Gonzalez how to implement a program in a system that is constantly moving. Mr. Gonzalez responded that the EPCs are numbered and it takes approximately five years to fully implement. Mr. Thurmond asked if the District would start at EPC 1. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the District has part of all EPCs but no one is fully implemented. Mr. Thurmond asked if there is a cost per pupil or the ultimate cost for the program. Mr. Gonzalez responded. Mr. Thurmond asked what percentages of the District's teachers have had the opportunity for training. Ms. Rashidchi responded that about 75% have had a chance to receive training on the core adopted programs. The remaining 25% will receive training beginning in August.

President Ramsey said this item can be brought back in a month for further discussion. He thanked everyone for the presentation.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval to move agenda items E.1, E.2, F.1 and D.3 to follow D.1. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment
Brandon Amargo, Diane Brown, Al Kirkman, Corey Mason

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Board Policy 5126 Update to Include Biliteracy Awards
Ms. Rashidchi gave background information on Board Policy 5126. She asked the Board to approve changes to the tie policy to include language for the Seal Biliteracy award.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
Mr. Medrano said he was encouraged and excited. He asked how the Advanced Placement examination was being implemented. Ms. Susan Dunlap responded.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the update to Board Policy 5126 Award for Achievement to include Biliteracy Awards. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D.3 Standing Reports

United Teachers of Richmond. Diane Brown said she would like the Board and District staff to confirm class sizes for the 2011-2012 school year. She also talked about the issues involving the Summer School hiring process.

Ivy League Connection. Ms. Kronenberg reported that the Ivy League Connection was very busy during the summer months, inviting the public to visit the Ivy League blog. She talked about her visit to Brown University with President Ramsey where they met with Browns alums and administrators. They also visited Cornell and will be visiting Vanderbilt where students are studying World Religions. Mr. Ramsey stated that their visit was very productive as they engaged with many admissions offices. They received good feedback about the school profiles.

D.4 In Memory of Members of the School Community
Superintendent Harter recognized contributions of members of the community who have passed away.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
None

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

- C.1 Acceptance of 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 Adoption of Resolution No. 13-1112: Replacement of Outdated Warrant**
- C.6 Annual Renewal of Continuing Services**
This item was pulled for comment.
- C.7 Notice of Completion: Bid W068264 De Anza High School Interim Warming Kitchen**
- C.8 Community Budget Advisory Committee Charter**
- C.9 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated**
- C.10 2010-11 Consolidated Application for Funding Categorical Aid Programs, Part I**
- C.11 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
- C.12 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.13 Hercules Middle High School New Building Approval of Architect and Contract for Master Planning**

- C.14 Kennedy High School ADA Compliance Project Award of Contract**
- C.15 Montalvin Manor Elementary School New Building Approval of Architect and Contract for Architectural and Engineering Services**
This item was pulled for comment.
- C.16 Approval of Stege Elementary School Master Plan**
- C.17 Ratification of Previously Authorized Staff Awarded Contract: Ohlone Elementary School West Campus Phase I**
- C.18 Williams Lawsuit Complaints Quarterly Report**
- C.19 Resolution Nos. 01-1112 through 12-1112: Board of Education Annual Resolutions for the 2011-2012 School Year**
- C.20 Meeting Dates for 2012**

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.5, C.7 – C.14 and C. 17 – C.20. Mr. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.6 Annual Renewal of Continuing Services

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked for clarification on the school resource officer contracts. Superintendent Harter responded that the contracts are only for the 2011-2012 year and the District has taken a preventive measure to notify the agencies that there is a possibility that the contracts would not be renewed for 2012-2013 year.

Mr. Ramsey would like the Board to have a comprehensive discussion on the number of law firm contracts. He would like to see legal fees reduced. All Board members expressed agreement with this direction.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Item C.6 Annual Renewal of Continuing Services. Mr. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.15 Montalvin Manor Elementary School New Building Approval of Architect and Contract for Architectural and Engineering Services

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked for clarification of the contract. Mr. Savidge explained the background of the project. A representative from the Vilar Architects explained the scope of the project.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Item C.15 Montalvin Manor Elementary School New Building Approval of Architect and Contract for Architectural and Engineering Services. Mr. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

C.16 Approval of Stege Elementary School Master Plan

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey asked for clarification of the contract. Mr. Powell gave a presentation on the plan of the project.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Item C.16 Approval of Stege Elementary School Master Plan. Mr. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Achievement Gap

This item was moved to follow B.6.

D.2 Assessed Valuation

Ms. Gamba introduced Ms. Joann Bose and Mr. Jeff Baratta. Ms. Bose and Mr. Baratta gave a presentation.

Public Comment:

Al Kirkman

Board Comment:

President Ramsey wanted to state for the record that he felt strongly that growth to Assessed Valuation of properties in the District would bounce back and get the 4% annual improvement that is the ten year average. He asked what the strategies are for dealing with possible tax rates for Measure D 2002. Ms. Gamba responded they will be bringing a resolution to the Board on July 27th and they will talk in detail then. Mr. Ramsey asked for clarification of what was meant by refunding for savings but not restructuring. Mr. Baratta responded. He also asked where Measure J falls under this structure if Assessed Values (AVs) grow in the next three years. Mr. Baratta responded that the faster AVs grow the sooner the District can issue the last bonds authorized under Measure J. Ms. Gamba also responded that she can ask Mr. Olson to put a scenario together for the timing of a sale for the remainder of the Measure J bonds. Mr. Ramsey asked about Measure D 2010. Mr. Baratta responded that the first year is at 0% stable growth. Mr. Ramsey asked Ms. Gamba if she felt comfortable with what she sees with AVs and restructuring. Ms. Gamba responded that her main concern is to see where they are with the DSA approval for the Gompers/Leadership program; it is something they will be looking at carefully. Mr. Ramsey thanked everyone.

D.3 Standing Reports

This item was moved to follow F.1.

D.4 In Memory of Members of the School Community

This item was moved to follow D.3.

E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

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

E.1 Superintendent's Report

This item was moved to follow D.1.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment

This item was moved to follow E.1.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Board Policy 5126 Update to Include Biliteracy Awards

This item was moved to follow E.2.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report

Mr. Savidge provided a presentation of updates on the status of the Bond Facilities projects.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey said that this was an exciting report.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Merriweather reported on her attendance at the National Education Association of Teachers Convention, sharing that Vice President Biden gave a speech on "No Child Left Behind".

Mr. Medrano commented on his participation in a peaceful protest in Phoenix.

Ms. Kronenberg wished everyone a happy summer and invited the public to visit the Ivy League blog.

Mr. Ramsey wanted Ms. Reinhagen to know that their thoughts are with her during her difficult time after the loss of a family member.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – August 17, 2011

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:12 PM.

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

BH:rc

MK
Approved 7-27-11