

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

October 4, 2011

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Charles Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:35PM.

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: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Charles Ramsey
Ms. Merriweather at 7:43PM and Mr. Thurmond arrived at 6:44 PM.

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Director Facilities Construction; Rosa Cornejo, Staff Secretary; Susan Dunlap, Coordinator; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-12 Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Cecilia Mendoza, Executive Director; Leticia Oregon, Interpreter; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Ann Reinhagen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Vince Rhea, Executive Director; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer, Marin Trujillo, Coordinator Community Engagement

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Youth Commission

Mr. Andrew Noble provided a report of activities for the Youth Commission.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

None

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather and Mr. Thurmond absent. Motion carried 3-0-0-2.

B.7 Minutes: September 21, 2011

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of September 21, 2011. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather and Mr. Thurmond absent. Motion carried 3-0-0-2.

Mr. Thurmond arrived at the meeting.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements

C.2 Acceptance of Donations

C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.4 Contracted Services

C.5 Master Contracts for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services

C.6 Notice of Completions: Bid J068283 Madera Elementary Kitchen & Restroom Resurfacing, Bid J068287 Stewart Elementary Kitchen & Restroom Resurfacing, Bid J068223 Chavez Elementary Window & Door Replacement, Bid J068262 Peres Elementary Roof Restoration

- C.7 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
- C.8 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.9 Measures J and D 2010 Bond Program Budget Update**
- C.10 Approval of updated District Standards for High School Renovations and Reconstructions**
- C.11 Right of Entry Agreement with the City of Richmond for a Temporary Campus for Nystrom Elementary School at the MLK Rec Center**
- C.12 Right of Entry Agreement between the West Contra Costa School District and the San Pablo Police Department for surveillance cameras on rooftops at Dover and Downer Elementary Schools**
- C.13 Stewart Elementary School Site Renovation Project Award of Contract**
- C.14 Adoption of Resolution No. 25-1112 in support of Office of Public School Construction applications for Modernization and New Construction state funding**
- C.15 Revision for Policy 7214.2 – Citizens Bond Oversight Committee**
This item was pulled for comment.
- C.16 Approval of Board Members to attend Conference**
This item was pulled for comment.
- C.17 Request to Rename a Facility**
This item was pulled for comment.
- C.18 Red Ribbon Board Resolution No. 24-1112**

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.14 and C.18. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

- C.15 Revision for Policy 7214.2 – Citizens Bond Oversight Committee**

Public Comment:
Don Gosney

Board Comment:
Mr. Medrano asked to have the item removed and taken it back to CBOC. President Ramsey explained the need to move forward. Mr. Medrano stated that the full text was not presented to the full CBOC committee for discussion. Mr. Thurmond asked for clarification. Mr. Gosney responded.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Consent Item C.15 Revision for Policy 7214.2 – Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes, Mr. Medrano voted no, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 3-1-0-1.

- C.16 Approval of Board Members to attend Conference**

Board Comment:
Mr. Medrano announced that he will attend the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) Conference in San Francisco on October 12 - October 15, 2011. This conference is in addition to the National Career Academy Annual Conference in November 2011.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Consent Item C.16 Approval of Board Members to attend Conference with the addition of the ALAS conference. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

- C.17 Request to Rename a Facility**

Public Comment:
Steve Alameda, Randall Enos, Michael Frazier, Marco Gonzales, Ronald Kamb, Sue Khan, Linda Felix-Lambie, Margaret Maher, Mike Peritz, Olivia Trevino

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Item C.17 Request to Rename a Facility. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, September 14, 2011 – October 15, 2011 through WCCUSD student performances

Ms. Susan Dunlap introduced Mr. Raul Morales, chairperson from the District Multilingual Advisory Committee. Mr. Morales spoke briefly of the background of Hispanic Heritage Month. He also invited Board members and parents to join them for their first meeting on October 27, 2011 at Helm Middle School. Students from Cesar Chavez Elementary, Pinole Valley High and Richmond High performed for the Board and public.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey thanked the performers.

D.2 Closing the Achievement Gap Conversation, Part II Report on and Recognition of Schools Meeting 2011 Academic Performance Index (API) growth Targets and/or Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets

Ms. Rashidchi gave a presentation to show the latest data received from the State of California. Twenty six schools were honored and congratulated including: Bayview, Chavez, Coronado, Downer, Ellerhorst, Fairmont, Hanna Ranch, Highland, Kensington, Lake, Lincoln, Madera, Nystrom, Olinda, Peres, Riverside, Shannon, Sheldon, Stewart, Wilson, Crespi, Helms, Hercules Middle, Pinole Middle and Middle College High.

Sheldon Principal Sonja Bell spoke about the success of the students in partnership with rigorous and meaningful instruction. The staff's steps included academic conferences, intensive data reviews, and teacher collaboration on instruction to meet student needs.

Crespi Principal Pat Martin shared how proud he is of the work the Crespi team has accomplished. He said last year's success came with the continued efforts from the staff and experience, dedicated teachers. They began the year by looking at the previous years' data results and identifying areas of strength and areas of concerns. They looked at the data from their current students to target focus areas for instruction. Teachers agreed to meet twice a month in collaboration to work on strategies, planning and methods of assessments and to share their most affective instructional techniques. To support the equity initiative they employed Coach Selena Jackson to assist teaching staff.

DeAnza Principal Robert Evans in collaboration with Ms. Paul Raj and Ms. Athena Kraus spoke about the success at DeAnza. They began the year using the EduSoft program to see the proficiency levels of students and create profiles of the classes. They have also instituted the Teach for America tracking system and teacher training in PowerSchool. This school year began with a week-long staff retreat. The academies are comprised with 50 percent or more of at-risk students and the assistance of a part time teacher coach.

Lincoln Principal Mimi Melodia spoke about the growth at Lincoln with two main areas of focus: academic achievement and school / community partnership. Lincoln provides consistent, leveled additional instruction in RLA, Math and ELD to meet students where they are academically to move toward grade level. Regular teacher analysis of student data, focus collaboration, and relentless planning and action around target areas of student needs is continually assessed. She recognized staff and parents that were present in the audience.

Ms. Merriweather arrived at the meeting.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey congratulated the schools once again and thanked them for being present.

D.3 Report on Volunteer Efforts in WCCUSD

Mr. Marin Trujillo shared the efforts of the Community Engagement Office and the hosting of fingerprinting ‘parties’ to assist parents and community members in the volunteer process. To date they have processed 223 new parent volunteers and have 589 scheduled to be processed. They also have processed 58 community members with 122 scheduled to be processed. By November 5 they will have approximately 1000 new volunteers processed and ready to serve.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano asked if they have encountered any issues with parents being able to provide a government issued identification. Mr. Trujillo responded that no parent will be denied an opportunity to volunteer in WCCUSD. Mr. Medrano asked what agencies receive the Live Scan finger print requests. Mr. Trujillo responded that the Live Scan information goes to the FBI and Department of Justice.

Ms. Merriweather asked about numbers at this time last year. Mr. Trujillo responded that they had 238 badges issued. By the end of last school year they had close to 700 volunteers, by the end of November of this year they will exceed the number of volunteers from last year.

Ms. Kronenberg asked if a one-time volunteer had to go through the same process. Mr. Trujillo responded. President Ramsey thanked him for the report and their efforts.

D.4 Standing Reports

Public Employees Local 1. Julio Arroyo wanted to remind the Board of ongoing discussion with administration in the District on long term issues with employees. He hoped that they can be resolve in a timely manner.

Citizen’s Bond Oversight Committee. Robert Studdiford thanked the Board for approving the board policy. He commented on Windrush School defaulting on their bond program. He wanted the public to understand how well the WCCUSD bond program runs. He announced the next CBOC meeting on October 26, 2011.

Safety Committee. Mr. Thurmond announced the next meeting for October 5 at Chavez Elementary.

Ivy League Connection. Mr. Ramsey commented on his visit to Harding and El Cerrito High for college workshops. He expressed concern at the low attendance of Latino and African American students. He announced upcoming visits from Cornell, Yale and Brown Universities. He hopes to encourage all the high schools to participate.

Mr. Thurmond asked if the District is an applicant to the All American City Efforts program to bring literacy by third grade. He was informed that the City of Richmond is an applicant. Dr. Harter responded.

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 Request to Address the Board – Billy Alexander

Mr. Alexander was not present.

E.3 WCCUSD Public Comment

None

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Public Hearing: Grades K-12 Textbook and Instructional Materials Compliance for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Ms. Rashidchi provided background information.

President Ramsey opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

President Ramsey closed the public hearing.

F.2 Adoption of Resolution No. 23-1112: Grades K-12 Textbook and Instructional Materials Compliance for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Public Comments:

None

Board Comments:

None

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of Adoption of Resolution No. 23-1112: Grades K-12 Textbook and Instructional Materials Compliance for Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Mr. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Mr. Noble (advisory vote only), and President Ramsey voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report – Facilities Planning and Construction

Mr. Savidge provided a status report of construction activities in the District.

Public Comment:

Robert Studdiford

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey thanked Mr. Savidge for the eight years he served WCCUSD. His legacy will include 25 elementary and two middle schools that have been built, one high school built and another under construction. He spoke of how important Mr. Savidge has been to the District.

Mr. Savidge thanked the Board for the kind remarks.

Ms. Kronenberg commended him for caring for the children of California and said she was happy that he continues serving the children. She said she hoped he would come back to see Portola once construction is completed.

Mr. Medrano commended him for his leadership, vision, patience, for overseeing all the construction, saying it was a pleasure knowing him and wished him the best of luck.

Mr. Thurmond thanked him for his service and for the integrity he brought to his work. He wished him well.

Ms. Merriweather congratulated him on his new job.

Superintendent Harter spoke in appreciation for all the work he has done and the difference he has made for the District's schools.

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

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Medrano thanked the Board for permitting him to attend a recent conference in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Thurmond thanked the student performers for the Hispanic Heritage Month. He acknowledged all those who have made contributions to the District and remember those who celebrate Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

Ms. Merriweather commented on her recent visit to Lincoln and the grand opening of Maritime Center.

Ms. Kronenberg commented on attending the first mock trial team meeting at Kennedy High and recognized Ms. Wells, Law Academy teacher at Kennedy.

Superintendent Harter presented copies of a book to Board Members put together by an exceptional staff member, Ms. Nora Connor. She has been an advocate for students at Verde, especially in the area of writing. The book is stories and writings from Verde students.

President Ramsey announced that several Board members will attend the Council of Urban School Boards of Education Conference in New Orleans. He thanked Bill Savidge again for his service to the District. President Ramsey adjourned the meeting in honor of Mr. William Savidge.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – October 19, 2011

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:05PM.

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

BH:rc

MK
Approved 10/19/11