

WCCUSD Governance Subcommittee

Alvarado Adult Education Campus

September 12, 2017

Minutes

Approved 11/2/17

I. Opening Procedures

A. Roll Call and Introductions

Chairperson Valerie Cuevas called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Committee Members Present: Valerie Cuevas, Tom Panas

Staff Attendees: Matthew Duffy Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Marin Trujillo, Coordinator Community Engagement; Marcus Walton, Director Communications

Members of the public introduced themselves.

B. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Panas and Chairperson Cuevas approved the agenda.

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2017; July 18, 2017

The meeting Minutes for June 19, 2017 and July 18, 2017 were approved by consensus.

D. Public Comment

None

II. Discussion Items

A. Continued Review of School Site Committees Structure, Bylaws, and Protocols

Chairperson Cuevas provided background. Mr. Panas shared his review of the differences in bylaws at various schools. He said that he found the largest differences were dates related to election of officers. While he also found various other minor differences, he was happy to see a lot of consistency. He remarked about schools with a significant percentage of English language (EL) learners and whether the district made SSC less inviting as committees may not be representative of their community. Mr. Marin Trujillo spoke about the criteria of +15% of district students speaking a particular language as the requirement for translation of documents. Mr. Panas said he would like to discuss whether meetings should be held in the language of the largest group of EL learners.

Chairperson Cuevas began the discussion about the expectations for SSC's and operation. Discussion included schools that traditionally have translators on hand at meetings as well as unofficial translators who step in to assist at meetings.

Mr. Trujillo distributed a handout with proposals for SSC Bylaw templates, additional training for SSC members, and new resources and procedures.

Discussion revolved around the challenges of establishing a quorum for SSC meetings and a potential new option to allow electronic attendance for one member per meeting. Conversation continued about amending appropriate Administrative Regulations as the vehicle to institute SSC changes and receive public input.

Discussion continued regarding details that support the running of SSC meetings. Mr. Trujillo elaborated about the use of student data, groups knowing formal rules to maintain a balance without silencing voices, and training for elected officers. Superintendent Duffy also weighed in on the benefits of training for Principals in SSC procedures and running meetings.

Public Comment:

Mr. Alex Beltran would like to see more LCAP training for SSC and ELAC members.

Ms. Lucy Alfaro had questions about transfer of membership and terms of officers. Mr. Trujillo explained about an alternate filling a vacancy left when an officer leaves during the year and when an election would be required under the Bylaws. Ms. Alfaro further asked about providing childcare and translation on a regular basis for the convenience of those attending meetings.

Mr. Mike Peritz shared the strategy of a principal holding SSC meetings on the same night as other parent events as an opportunity for maximum attendance and achieving the required quorum.

Mr. Anton Jungherr shared his recommendations to stagger terms of officers, implement a self-executing attendance requirement, developing a citizens' budget model program as a tool, clarity on terms of office when filling vacancies, and uniformity of bylaws for elementary and secondary schools.

Ms. Petronila Fernandes supported better information to parents about SSC and ELAC.

Mr. Beltran spoke about publishing member rosters to enable parents to reach out to SSC officers.

Committee Comment:

Chairperson Cuevas asked Mr. Trujillo to develop a revised Administrative Regulation incorporating changes and best practices for review at the next meeting.

B. Continued Review of Subcommittee Recommendation to Board regarding Resolution 19-1617 (Limiting Campaign Contributions to Candidates for the West Contra Costa Unified Board of Trustees)

Public Comment:

Karen Leong Fenton distributed a handout illustrating contributions to candidate elections from 1999 to 2016. She spoke about the costs of campaigning and fundraising. She pointed out that in 2014 and 2016 contributions grew, but added it was not because of contributions by trades unions or vendors. She also spoke about the volunteer base of support needed to run parcel tax and bond measure campaigns.

Sandra Falk addressed Resolution 19-1617 and avoiding conflict. She also referenced memos from legal counsel about creating a situation of disproportionate burden. She expressed concern about potential litigation with the current resolution and widening the underground money for educational candidates by forcing them to work with independent political action committees. Ms. Falk also shared information about Oakland implementing a required expenditure limit of no more than \$1.00 per resident.

Mr. Jungherr added information regarding attorney opinions dealing with objections.

Committee Discussion:

Chairperson Cuevas provided background regarding the memos from legal counsel and elaborated that there was no current state law to provide guidance. She expanded on intent and what could actually be done to address individual contribution leveraging.

Mr. Panas noted Mr. Don Gosney's letter emailed to committee members expressing his concerns.

UTR President Demetrio Gonzalez spoke about the union's \$30,000 candidate contribution as an

independent expenditure in support of candidates that was not reflected in Ms. Fenton's chart. Mr. Gonzalez asked about a way to exempt labor unions, as their contributions would be minimal when based upon a membership of 2000, and the limited capacity to compete with PACs.

Mr. Jungherr, Mr. Beltran, and Ms. Falk shared additional remarks.

Chairperson Cuevas pointed out that there was no enforcement mechanism on the side of the district and it would be up to the county District Attorney to pursue any political corruption violations. Discussion took place regarding vendors and labor unions. Ms. Cuevas concluded with remarks about looking into any "clean money" efforts at the state legislature. She said the community would have opportunity to weigh in as this item progresses.

C. Continued Review of CSBA's suggested new Board Bylaw 9012 regarding Board Member Electronic Communication

Public Comment:

None

Committee Discussion:

Superintendent Duffy was asked to make adjustments and review before taking the bylaw to the Board as a proposal.

D. New Review of LCFE Statute EC Section 52060(d) & DLCAP committee function and organization

Chairperson Cuevas provided background regarding initial LCFE legislation to establish a parent committee and said that much has changed in the past three years. She remarked about feedback from the existing District Local Control Accountability Plan (DLCAP) committee about how to maintain effectiveness.

Public Comment:

Ms. Fernandes spoke about a parent representative for each school, more translation and concern that a Parent Teacher Organization cannot represent themselves.

Mr. Beltran suggested revision of DLCAP bylaws with parents actively represented by organizations.

Mr. Gonzalez thought more teacher representation would be beneficial as LCAP supports and funds teacher work and compensation. He thought one teacher representative under represented the group.

Ms. Ada Bustamante said a better structure was needed to encourage parent engagement.

Ms. Alfaro wanted more direction to know how to be involved to support the Board and students.

Committee Discussion:

Mr. Panas, as Board Liaison to the committee, spoke about bylaws that guide the committee. He had developed a list of issues that he felt were points for concern that included an outdated membership list, lack of quorum for meetings, representation of students and bargaining units, employees serving in parent roles, and unclear purpose.

Superintendent Duffy said he would like to review statute to determine what is required as well as other avenues to fulfill community engagement of stakeholders. He spoke about whether the committee was the best way to engage parents and how to address the matter.

Chairperson Cuevas said this was a challenge as the district has been lauded for its transparent engagement with the LCAP. Perhaps the committee should be asked to consider reshaping its structure.

Mr. Gonzalez spoke about this district being commended as the only district in the state with a parent committee and transparency tools available online. He said that if the committee is no longer working, perhaps it is time to recommend a different type of collaboration for stakeholders.

Discussion continued regarding reshaping the requirement of a parent committee for review of the annual LCAP. Superintendent Duffy was asked to review what is currently required, review structure and bylaws around membership and function to authorize the annual LCAP plan. Superintendent Duffy shared that board policy reflected the makeup of the committee. He will also check the bylaws about an organization petitioning the committee to add members.

Chairperson Cuevas said the DLCAP committee must continue working while a long-term solution is developed to address statute requirements. The goal is access and increased opportunity for involvement.

III. Action Items

A. Receive and Approve Update of School Site Committees Structure, Bylaws, and Protocols

Chairperson Cuevas restated that Mr. Trujillo would return to the next meeting with updated administrative regulations for SSC incorporating his recommendations.

Public Comment:

Ms. Alfaro asked the Superintendent and Board Members to attend SSC meetings.

B. Receive and Approve Update of Subcommittee Recommendation to Board Regarding Resolution 19-1617 (Limiting Campaign Contributions to Candidates for the West Contra Costa Unified Board of Trustees)

Chairperson Cuevas said the conversation and work on this issue would continue.

Public Comment:

Ms. Fenton urged halting of the resolution stressing the problem was not vendor contributions. She also urged a plan to develop new board members through the parent community.

C. Receive and Approve Update of Board Bylaw 9012 regarding Board Member Electronic Communication

Superintendent Duffy will make adjustments and review before taking to the Board for approval.

Public Comment:

None

D. Consider Approval of DLCAP Committee Function and Organization

The committee will continue toward development of the next iteration of LCAP with the next DLCAP committee meeting to review proposed bylaw revisions.

Public Comment:

Ms. Alfaro, Ms. Fernandes, Ms. Bustamante and Mr. Gonzalez addressed the committee with further remarks.

IV. Governance Subcommittee Meeting Schedule

The next meetings were scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 6:00 PM and Wednesday,

November 8, 2017, 6:00 PM.

V. Adjournment

Chairperson Cuevas adjourned the meeting at 9:39 PM.