

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

**April 4, 2012**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Ramsey called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.  
President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6: 37 P.M.

**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, Elaine Merriweather, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

**Staff Present:** Magdy Abdalla, Director Facilities Construction; Martin Coyne, Director of Bonds Program; Danielle Paradisa, Director of Finance; Joe Mayes, Manager of Maintenance and Operations; Jean Hansen, Principal Peres Elementary School; Sylvia Greenwood, Principal Lovonya DeJean Middle School; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Erin Fleming, Director Classified Personnel; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; June Kalfsbeek, Sr. Confidential Secretary; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Education Services; Ann Reinhamen, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Reyna Ortiz de Toureil, Translator

**B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Gompers High School**

Absent

President Ramsey passed the gavel to Mr. Medrano to preside over this portion of the meeting.

**B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the April 4, 2012 recommendation to approve expulsion cases #001 - #006 and suspend those expulsions for placement within the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

**Motion: Ms. Kronenberg moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the recommendation of April 4, 2012 for expulsion cases #001 – #006. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather and Mr. Thurmond voted yes, President Ramsey abstained, and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.**

Mr. Medrano passed the gavel to President Ramsey who presided over the remainder of the meeting.

**B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption**

**MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of the agenda, including moving items D.1 and D.3 to follow Approval of Minutes. 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.7 Minutes: March 21, 2012**

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of March 21, 2012. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Thurmond, and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and 0 absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS**

**D.1 Recognition of John Iwawaki for his 100<sup>th</sup> Escape Club Camping Trip**

Superintendent Harter presented John Iwawaki, DeJean Middle School teacher, with recognition for completion of one hundred overnight camping field trips with the Escape Club at Adams and DeJean Middle Schools

**Public Comment:**

Jason Lau

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Merriweather thanked Mr. Iwawaki for her daughter's involvement with the Escape Club.

**D.3 Closing the Achievement Gap Update**

Superintendent Harter presented information about the District's efforts to close the achievement gap. Dr. Sharroky Hollie presented additional information regarding his work with District teachers. Ms. Emily Ruflide, second grade teacher and Principal Denise Pinney of Tara Hills Elementary School, spoke about teacher training. Mr. Steve Thomas, Science teacher at DeAnza High School, addressed the impact of Linked Learning on the achievement gap.

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Thurmond asked about the next steps be for intervention programs for the middle school and high school students. Dr. Hollie responded.

Ms. Kronenberg shared that she had previously attended Dr. Hollie's workshop in Sacramento and commented about the application for adult education.

Ms. Merriweather commended Dr. Hollie for his extensive teacher training in the District.

Ms. Rashidchi spoke of the elementary teacher training over the last three years.

Mr. Medrano commented on parent involvement. Dr. Hollie responded.

President Ramsey thanked everyone for the presentation and Dr. Hollie for his participation.

**C. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**C.1 Acceptance of Donations**

**C.2 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities**

**C.3 Contracted Services**

**C.4 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated**

**C.5 Routine Personnel Changes - Classified**

**C.6 Six students from our district high schools will be participating on a 15 day college tour**

**C.7 Board Policy 6170.1 Transitional Kindergarten (TK)**

**C.8 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**

**C.9 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**

**C.10 Acceptance of the 2012-2011 Financial Bound Audit Report**

**C.11 Approval of El Cerrito High School Stadium and Field Replacement Additional Design Fees**

**C.12 Coronado Elementary School at Kennedy School Portable Lease**

**C.13 Kennedy High School Science Classrooms Portable Lease**

**C.14 Multipurpose Room Audio-Visual Project at Helms MS**

**C.15 Multipurpose Room Audio-Visual Project at Pinole MS**

**C.16 Nystrom Elementary School Portable Lease**

**C.17 Nystrom Elementary School Temporary Campus Site Work Project Award of Contract**

**C.18 Williams Lawsuit Complaints Quarterly Report**

**MOTION:** Mr. Medrano moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.18. Ms. Merriweather 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.20 Peres Elementary School Dental Clinic**

Dr. Tanita thanked the District and Principal Hansen. He said the supportive community is a model for other District's in health care delivery to students.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

President Ramsey directed Mr. Fay and Mr. Abdalla to move this project forward. Mr. Hibser of Hibser, Yamauchi Architects, Inc. also shared that the project has been given approved by Principal Hansen.

**MOTION: President Ramsey made a friendly amendment to the motion to re-name the dental clinic as the Dr. Dan Tanita Dental Clinic at Peres Elementary. Mr. Medrano moved approval of the amended motion. Ms. Merriweather 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.2 WCCUSD Public Comment**

Jacqueline Majors, Michael Beer, Robin Wilson, Tana Monteiro, Christian Anderson, Miya Woodhouse

**D.2 Budget Update**

Ms. Gamba gave a budget update and said the Governor's May Revise information will be presented at the May 23, 2012 meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Sarah Butler

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Merriweather reported on the new initiative supported by the Governor.

**D.4 Board Priority on Middle School Mathematics – It All Adds Up**

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Curriculum Director Phil Gonsalves who has shared information about the implementation of the Board's Middle School Math Priority. President Ramsey had questions about department chair signatures approving this implementation. Mr. Gonsalves responded.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

None

**D.5 Standing Reports**

**Ivy League Connection.** Mr. Don Gosney reported on the progress of the Ivy League Connection and preparing students to be successful in their summer programs.

**Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.** Mr. Robert Studdiford reviewed items from the last meeting. He announced the next meeting will be on April 25, 2012 at the Facilities Operations Center with a tour of Nystrom Elementary School at 5:30 p.m. He also said that the committee would like to hold a joint meeting with Board of Education in July 2012.

**Community Budget Advisory Committee.** Ms. Gamba announced the next meeting for April 26 at Alvarado Adult Education Center.

**Select Committee on High Schools.** Mr. Greer announced the next meeting will be held at Richmond High School on April 24 at 6:30 p.m.

**Linked Learning.** Ms. Kronenberg announced the next meeting set for May 14, at 6:00 p.m. at El Cerrito High School. Mr. Medrano spoke about a recent meeting at Richmond High's Law Academy attended by County Probation Director Philip Kader.

**Safety Committee.** Mr. Thurmond announced the next meeting for April 18 at Helms Middle School. Ms. Merriweather asked that meeting notices be posted on the District website.

**Youth Commission.** Mr. Thurmond announced the next meeting to be held April 9, 6:00 p.m. at the Pinole Round Table Pizza.

**Academic Subcommittee.** Ms. Rashidchi said the next meeting will be held April 17, 6:30 p.m. at Helms Middle School.

**D.6 In Memory of Members of the School Community**

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

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

None

**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.

**F. ACTION ITEMS**

None

**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**G.1 Project Status Report**

Mr. Magdy Abdalla provided a report of construction projects in the District.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

President Ramsey had questions about the El Cerrito stadium project and the shade structure for King Elementary School. Mr. Abdalla responded with clarification. President Ramsey and Mr. Medrano requested updates on the Helms Middle School, Montalvin Elementary School and King Elementary School projects for a future meeting.

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

None

**I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Medrano spoke about the San Pablo Police Department hosting an awards dinner to be held May 25, 2012 honoring students. He also reported on the Close-Up Program and retired teacher Dorothy Herzberg interviewed by the media as a winner of the Jefferson Award for public service. Mr. Medrano reported on the recent WASC visit at Richmond High.

President Ramsey asked Mr. Abdalla additional questions regarding Nystrom Elementary School. Mr. Abdalla clarified.

President Ramsey said he would like to have a celebration to recognize Fred Stewart and Linda Grundhoffer for their service as State Administrator and Trustee. President Ramsey concluded with speaking about the reported Chevron tax assessment appeal decision and the impact for the entire county.

**J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – April 25, 2012

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting in the name of former State Trustee and Administrator Fred Stewart at 9:54 P.M.

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

BH:jk

<p><b><u>AAM</u></b> Approved 4/25/12</p>
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