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

July 11, 2012

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.
President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:44 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, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

Board Members Absent: Elaine Merriweather

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Director Facilities Construction; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Bill Fay; Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Rhonda Haney, Coordinator Youth Development; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Nicole Joyner, Administrator Grants/Special Projects; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Reyna Ortiz de Toureil, Translator; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

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 2012-2013:

Stege Elementary School Principal Pamela Booker
Helms K-12 Instructional Specialist Jessica Price
DeAnza K-12 Instructional Specialist Rose Bright
Hercules Assistant Principal Kenneth Hickock
Hercules Assistant Principal Akele Newton

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointments. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

Nystrom Elementary Principal LaDonna Williams

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the action taken in Closed Session regarding the administrative appointment of the Nystrom Principal. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond voted yes, President Ramsey voted no, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 3-1-0-1.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the agenda with moving items F.1, E.2 and D.1. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

F.1 Amended Resolution No. 105-1112: Credential Assignment Options
Mr. Whittemore explained that this was brought back to the Board to be approved as an action item.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
None

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the Amended Resolution No. 105-1112: Credential Assignment Options. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

E.2 WCCUSD Public Comment
Jacqueline Majors, Toni Favila, Catherine Mercurio, Ben Steinberg, Karen Shehbek, Dakota Harris, Shamara Rogers, Kallie Garcia Barfield, Phoenix Bryant, Idrissa Farrell, Genevieve Nutt, Bryan Simmons, D'Andrea Farrell, Thomasina Horsley, Rick Alexander, Scottie Smith, Brianna Dixon, Juanita Dixon, Kenneth Garron, Ivy Roberts, Charles Stewart, Al Kirkman, Ian Billings, Mauricio Duarte, Dylan Rotich, Ethen Rotich

E.1 Superintendent's Report
Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 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. 14-1213: Replacement of Outdated Warrant
C.6 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts
C.7 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders
C.8 Williams Lawsuit Complaints Quarterly Report
C.9 Amending Resolution No. 117-1112: Specifications of the Elections Order
C.10 Resolution Nos. 01-1213 through 13-1213: Board of Education Annual Resolutions for the 2012-2013 School Year
C.11 Meeting Dates for 2012-2013

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.11. Mr. Medrano seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Merriweather absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.

B.6 Minutes: June 27, 2012; July 2, 2012

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the Minutes of June 27, 2012 and July 2, 2012. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond 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 Bond Finance Report
This item was moved to follow item G.1.

D.2 Standing Reports

Public Employees Union Local One. Scott Brown reported that Local One supports pursuing a parcel tax and pledges to work diligently on the campaign. He spoke about a matter regarding medical benefits provided to unrepresented administrators in the District. He concluded by saying that Local One members will work hard to pass the Governor's tax initiative and will continue to pursue equity for their membership.

United Teachers of Richmond. Diane Brown said UTR has committed to renew the parcel tax, needing to mobilize the community and encourage a grassroots effort. She shared a letter from their national association president regarding the District's contracting with Teach for American. She spoke about UTR requesting additional information regarding TFA teachers.

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba announced the next meeting scheduled for July 26, 2012 at Alvarado Adult Education Center.

Linked Learning. Mr. Medrano reported on attending a conference at Stanford with nine schools funded by the Irvin Foundation. He also commented about the cohort with Contra Costa College.

Ivy League Connection. Ms. Kronenberg spoke of her recent trip to Brown University as well as Harvard and Vanderbilt. Students for the Yale program are preparing to leave later in the month. President Ramsey reported on the students about experiences while at Brown. He and Ms. Kronenberg will also visit with students at Columbia and Yale later this month.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano reported on the July 10 meeting where discussion included readying portable buildings at Nystrom for the start of school. He also reported that the Coronado temporary campus at Kennedy is near completion. Demolition has begun on the Portola buildings. President Ramsey spoke about the construction mentorship program and a report to the Board. The next meeting is scheduled for August 14.

D.3 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.2 Superintendent's Report
This item was moved to follow item E.3.

E.3 WCCUSD Public Comment
This item was moved to follow item F.1.

G.1 Project Status Report
Mr. Abdalla provided a report of construction projects in the District.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
Mr. Medrano had questions about the Helms Middle School site. President Ramsey had questions regarding the Ellerhorst roofing project. Mr. Freese and Mr. Abdalla responded. President Ramsey continued with questions about the Peres project and fingerprinting of contractors.

D.1 Bond Finance Report
Dave Olson from KNN Public Finance provided a report regarding the county assessor's office assessed property values as it relates to the District's bond program.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

President Ramsey and Mr. Thurmond commented on the growth in assessed property valuation especially in the City of Richmond. Discussion continued about tax rates for the five bond measures.
Ms. Kronenberg spoke about a policy decision on returning funds to the public when possible. Discussion took place regarding maintaining bond measures at the $60 tax rate level.

President Ramsey asked the Board's concurrency regarding tax rate stabilizations for each of the bond measures. Through consensus, Board members affirmed their support for the tax rate stabilization for Measure M, Measure D 2002 and Measure J. By consensus the Board also agreed to allow the rate for Measure D 2010 to cover only the amount required for the annual payment. Mr. Medrano had a question about the definition of sinking fund. Mr. Olson provided clarification.

President Ramsey commented that he thought it useful information for public review to show data about past projections of tax base stabilization versus the current situation.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Amended Resolution No. 105-1112: Credential Assignment Options
This item was moved to follow item B.5.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Project Status Report
This item was moved to follow item E.3.

H. UNFINISHED REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD (continued from Item E)
None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT
Mr. Thurmond reported about attending a recent Hercules City Council meeting where he shared the District's desire to work with the City. He reported that the District has been invited to the Council's July 24 meeting to address concerns regarding safety.

Ms. Kronenberg said she looked forward to the July 23 Special Board Meeting where the Board will review the results of the recent parcel tax polling survey. She also invited the public to read the Ivy League Connection blogs from students.

Mr. Medrano said he will meet with San Pablo City Council seeking their official support for a parcel tax measure. He also said he spent time with the community groups working for the parcel tax and advised seeking representation from all surrounding cities.

President Ramsey acknowledged that Ms. Merriweather was away on a trip to South Africa. He also announced that the July 23 meeting will begin at 6:00 PM with opportunity for Board members to be able to receive the data regarding the parcel tax polling survey. He encouraged the Board to allow the experienced pollsters to present data from their survey.

Mr. Medrano asked about holding joint meetings with the cities of Hercules and Pinole suggesting holding meetings periodically in north end of District. President Ramsey commented about the community budget meetings held throughout the community.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Lovonya DeJean Middle School – August 1, 2012

K. ADJOURNMENT
President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:44 P.M. in name of Harvard University.

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

BH:dh

AAM
Approved 8/1/12