

**Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 Macdonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805**

September 19, 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 6:38 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

Board Members Absent: Elaine Merriweather, Tony Thurmond

Staff Present: Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Bill Fay; Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Keith Holtslander, Director Facilities and Construction; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; June Kalfsbeek, Confidential Administrative Secretary; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Technician Supervisor; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources, Reyna Ortiz de Toureil, Translator

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Middle College High School

None

Mr. Thurmond and Ms. Merriweather arrived at 6:39 p.m.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Dr. Harter asked the Board to ratify the appointment of Linda Delgado as the Coordinator of Educational Services.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the appointment of Linda Delgado as the Coordinator of Education Services. 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.

President Ramsey asked the Board to consider moving items D.1 and D.2 on the agenda to follow B.7.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of items D.1 and D.2 to follow B.7. 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.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the agenda. 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.

B.7 Minutes: September 5, 2012

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of September 5, 2012. 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.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Resolution No. 21-1213: Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15, 2012 – October 15, 2012

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Stephanie Sequiera, the co-chair for the Multilingual District Advisory committee to provide a report on the Hispanic Heritage Month. Ms. Sequiera invited Board members, parents and the public to attend their first meeting on October 25, 2012 at Helms Elementary School.

Mr. Kibby Kleiman from Richmond High School introduced the students performing the Latino heritage dances.

President Ramsey asked the Board to consider moving item G.1 on the agenda to follow D.2.

MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved approval of items G.1 to follow D.2. 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.2 Report on the College Board Initiatives in West Contra Costa Unified School District

Mr. Greer introduced Sandra Williams-Hamp, Executive Director for the College Board. Ms. Williams-Hamp provided a report on success and opportunities through the College Board initiatives in the District. For more than one hundred years this is an organization has connected students to college success and is known for the SAT, AP, and PSAT. When students take the PSAT exam they have access to powerful resources for their entire high school career through “My Road” and “My College Quick Start”. Students are able to build their resumes, search for careers, research scholarships and support the District’s effort around career opportunities. The “Ready Step” assessment will begin this school year 2012-13 for the eighth graders transitioning from to ninth grade.

West Contra Costa Unified School District is one of nine hundred districts partnered across the nation with a focus on the four components of Assessments, College and Career Readiness Resources, Advanced Placement and Professional Development. The College Board recognizes that these tools are needed to assist students to think about college early on.

Public Comment:

Lawrence Pang, Ladejah Dillard, Junare Hernandez

Board Comment:

Mr. Medrano asked for a definition of NMSQT. Ms. Williams-Hamp responded that the acronym stands for National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Students that take the exam in their junior year are able to compete for scholarships across the nation. The National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test uses the PSAT as the exam which determines students’ scholarships.

Ms. Merriweather asked how students were recruited for the program. Ms. Williams-Hamp responded the Advance placement (AP) teacher and AP potential data would send letters to the students and their families to suggest that the student to see their school counselors.

Mr. Thurmond thanked Ms. Williams-Hamp for the excellent work from staff, teachers and professors in this AP program, and requested more details about AP and the relationship with the District.

Ms. Kronenberg asked if the College Board initiatives are part of the College Access Network. Ms. Williams-Hamp responded.

President Ramsey thanked the staff for their presentation. President Ramsey requested to have the system available to every student, not just the affluent, and to make a new paradigm.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Full Service Community Schools Resolution

Mr. Greer introduced Mr. Leonard McNeil, Vice Mayor of City of San Pablo and instructor at Contra Costa College. In December 2012 Mr. McNeil will be speaking on a panel at the California School Board Association to address local efforts in creating full service community schools.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District envisions a future in which all District students are healthy, highly educated and confident as they successfully pursue their postsecondary education and/or career. The Safety Committee has worked in collaboration with the City of San Pablo to improve the Health/Wellness, access and outcomes for West Contra Costa Unified School District students and San Pablo residents. Over the past two years, the Healthy Richmond collaborative has been meeting to think through how to best provide health and wellness services in Richmond. As with other initiatives within the community, West Contra Costa Unified School District schools are seen as places where the needs of young people and opportunities to provide services in the community can come together. The Safety Committee has reviewed and discussed the direction of the full service community schools initiatives and is bringing a recommendation to the Board for adopting such a resolution. The resolution emphasizes creating schools to develop sets of general principles to guide their work and the work of the District in implementing Full Service Schools.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond said the innovation for the District is to have full service community schools and assist in removing barriers for academic achievement for our students.

Ms. Kronenberg thanked Mr. McNeil for championing the Full Service Community Schools resolution and the opportunity to collaborate.

Ms. Merriweather said in times of such reduced funding that full service community schools are even more important for bringing our stakeholders together for our students.

President Ramsey stated education is our hope and aspiration for the future of our young people and our community. The City Council and City of Richmond partnership has assisted the District in services for students. The resolution will be on the agenda for the next Board of Education meeting October 10, 2012.

D.1 Resolution No. 21-1213: Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15, 2012 – October 15, 2012

This item moved to follow B.7.

D.2 Report on the College Board initiatives in West Contra Costa Unified School District

This item moved to follow B.7.

D.3 Standing Reports

Youth Commission. Mr. Thurmond said the Commission will hold an orientation meeting on September 26, 6:00 p.m. at RYSE Center in Richmond. Dr. Harter said notices will be sent to all high schools.

Safety Committee. Ms. Merriweather reported suspensions in the District were reviewed and found to be high. The committee and administrators are implementing a plan to decrease the suspensions and provide an alternative plan for this year. The suspension form is in the process of becoming standardized among the schools. The next meeting will be October 4, 2012 at El Cerrito High School.

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi reported that a representation from every school in the District attends the Academic Subcommittee meetings. The agenda at the September 11 meeting focused on the semester action plan in transitioning to the California Common Core State Standards and the assessments that will be used to measure progress. The next meeting will be October 9, 2012 from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Bayside Parent Teacher Association. President Ramsey reported that Measure E and Measure G were endorsed.

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba announced that the next meeting will be September 27, 2012 at Alvarado School.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano announced a special meeting is set for September 25, 2012 at the Facilities Operations Center at 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. The topics will include Helms Middle School, Portola Middle School and Harding Elementary School.

President Ramsey reported that the Local Capacity topic was a recent agenda item. Mr. Medrano and President Ramsey requested bringing “local capacity” as an action item at the October 10, 2012 Board meeting with Jake Sloan’s presentation. The “baseball diamond” agenda item was tabled until the next Facility Subcommittee meeting on October 9, 2012 when Marcia Vallier of Vallier Design and Associates will be present; Wilson Elementary School agenda item will be on the agenda for the Special Facility meeting on September 25, 2012.

President Ramsey reported that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Peres Elementary School Dental Clinic at 9:00 a.m. on September 28, 2012.

Ivy League Connection. President Ramsey reported they had a successful event held at La Strada with forty five students and parents to meeting with the head of the admissions office for Brown University. Other events with the Wesleyan University, University of Chicago and Boston College were held at the Harding Auditorium. Events for the University of Pennsylvania and Yale University will be held in the coming weeks.

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
None

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Approval of the 2011-2012 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report
Ms. Gamba reported that by September 15 of each year, the District must file the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report for the prior year with the Contra Costa County Office of Education and the California Department of Education. This report reflects the financial activities of the District by major object of revenue and expense for each fund operated in the District.

Ms. Gamba presented an overview of the financial activity and its impact on the ending balance. Included in the Unaudited Actuals was a summary of the General Fund and all funds.

Ms. Gamba reported the District’s cash position at year end closing there was a positive \$7 million cash balance due to inter-fund borrowing of \$23.5 million. The Board previously authorized the inter-fund borrowing as part of the year end closing process which was needed. The State of California has a deferral program. The net cash for the general fund in the District including restricted and unrestricted was \$28 million. The District’s accounts receivable was \$57 million for the general fund, this was owed to the District from granting agencies in the State of California. On the January 9, 2013 Board meeting the Annual Audit report will be provided.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:
President Ramsey requested clarification for legal fees. Ms. Gamba responded.

Ms. Kronenberg requested to have an updated budget for Proposition 30 to assist the voters’ decision.

MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of Approval of the 2011-2012 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report. 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.

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 Notice of Completions: Bid 3881366-02 Gompers/Leadership Public Schools Soil Removal and Site Work, Bid 3761356-01 Hercules Middle School Solar / Photovoltaic System, Bid J068218 Nystrom Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, Bid J068313 Lupine Hills Elementary School Restroom Repairs, Lupine Hills, Bid J068302 Lupine Hills Elementary School Windows, walls and Roof Repairs, and Bid J068312 Verde Elementary School Restroom Surface Repairs

C.6 Resolution No. 22-1213: Adoption of Gann Limit, 2012-2013

C.7 Mandated Cost Block Grant

This item was pulled for discussion.

C.8 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44285.3

C.9 Routine Personnel Changes – Classified

C.10 Approve the following New Job Description: Theater Technician Manager

C.11 Revised 2012-2013 Designation of California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Representatives to the League

C.12 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.13 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.14 Approval of Pinole Valley High School Replacement Campus Revised Design Fees

C.15 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Tom Waller appointed by Richmond Chamber Commerce Board

C.16 Approval of Board Member to Attend Conference

C.17 Resolution No. 20-1213: Resolution to Support Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Measure Q on the November 2012 Election Ballot

C.7 Mandated Cost Block Grant

Mr. Medrano requested clarification from the Board of item C.7. Ms. Gamba responded.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Items C.7 Mandated Cost Block Grant. 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.

MOTION: Mr. Thurmond moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.6. and C.8 – C.17. 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.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Full Service Community Schools Resolution

This item was moved to follow item D.2.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Thurmond requested staff to make access available to the “My Road” planning system in order to assist all students. Dr. Harter shared that this plan has been engaged by the District and an update is planned for a future Board meeting.

Mr. Thurmond thanked Ms. Merriweather and Ms. Kronenberg for their participation on the Safety Committee.

Ms. Kronenberg confirmed initiatives for the voters are critical for Proposition 30.

Ms. Merriweather said she was excited regarding the Full Service Community Schools. Education is the center and the key is a strong core instructional program.

Mr. Medrano spoke about the Contra Costa College California Community Linked Learning Initiative. The action team leadership met last week. Contra Costa College, under the leadership of the new president Dr. Denise Noldon and the new grant coordinator Donna De Ruso, are bringing down the silos between their English teachers, math teachers, and the District's English teachers and math teachers. They would like to continue to reach District junior and senior students in keeping this program.

Mr. Medrano reviewed the Deferred Action plan of President Obama. Mr. Marin Trujillo is able to assist families with this matter in the Community Engagement Office.

President Ramsey congratulated El Cerrito High School's football team on its success so far this season. On October 3, 2012 Pinole Valley High School will have a community meeting at 5:30 p.m. regarding the status of Pinole Valley High School project for DSA approval of Phase I & II for the 2013 summer projects. There will be an outreach to the neighbors of the school as well as parents and other community members.

President Ramsey reported that Dr. Harter attended the recent graduation of the Mock Trial event involving two of the District's high schools. Fourteen students which began the first day of the program. President Ramsey asked about a coordinator to assist in this program's success. Mr. Thurmond suggested the coordinator also support the Youth Leadership program. Dr. Harter summarized the request to assign support to Youth Leadership Development and include the Mock Trial Program and the Youth Commission and bring back to the Board for approval. Ms. Merriweather clarified the request to also fund an FTE to support students and coordinate representatives from the law academies also.

Mr. Medrano requested Dr. Harter bring a report regarding the new pre-school charges to parents as a discussion item at the next meeting.

President Ramsey asked about the process for finger printing. Dr. Harter reported that the process is continuing with the finger printing for volunteers through the Be A Mentor program. Ms. Rashidchi will send information to Board members regarding the finger printing process.

President Ramsey announced that there will be a Middle School Open House on September 20, 2012. He concluded the meeting in the name of the founder of public schools, Mr. Horace Mann.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – October 10, 2012

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 9:20 P.M.

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

BH:rjk

AAM
Approved 10/10/12