

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

December 12, 2012

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:35 P.M.

B.1 Swearing In Of New Board Members

Superintendent Harter swore in new board members Randall Enos and Todd Groves.

B.2 Pledge of Allegiance

President Ramsey led the pledge of allegiance.

B.3 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

President Ramsey offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting.

B.4 Roll Call

Board Members Present: Randall Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg, Elaine Merriweather, Charles Ramsey

Staff Present: Mike Aaronian, Coordinator College and Career; Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Business Services; Lisa Erwin, Executive Director Business Services; Bill Fay; Associate Superintendent Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance & 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; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Reyna Ortiz de Touriel, Interpreter; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Education Services; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources; Teonna Thompson, Senior Account Clerk

B.5 Annual Organization Meeting

Election of President

Motion: Mr. Groves moved to nominate Ms. Kronenberg to the position of President of the Board. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Kronenberg, Ms. Merriweather, and Mr. Ramsey voting yes, with no abstentions or absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

Superintendent Harter presented Mr. Ramsey with an appreciation plaque for his work as President of the Board over the past year. President Kronenberg led a standing ovation for Mr. Ramsey.

Election of Clerk

Motion: Mr. Groves moved to nominate Mr. Ramsey to serve as Clerk of the Board. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voting yes, and no abstentions or absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

A separate motion was taken to appoint the Superintendent as Secretary, authorize the President to sign documents, the Clerk to sign in the absence of President, affirm the board meeting dates and establish the board calendar for 2013.

Motion: Mr. Ramsey moved to affirm the appointment of the Superintendent as Secretary, authorize the President to sign documents, the Clerk to sign in the absence of President, affirm the board meeting dates, and establish the board calendar for 2013. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions or absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.6 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Pinole Valley High School

Mr. George Howard provided a report of activities at Pinole Valley High School.

B.7 Report/Ratification of Closed Session
None

B.8 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative George Howard (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.9 Minutes: November 28, 2012; December 3, 2012

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of November 28, 2012 and December 3, 2012. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative George Howard (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Enos and Mr. Groves abstaining. Motion carried 3-0-2-0.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Acceptance of Donations

C.2 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.3 Summary of Payroll and Vendor Warrant Reports

C.4 Contracted Services

C.5 Notice of Completions: Bid 1551223-20/1421223-19/1391223-18 Sheldon Elementary School/Murphy Elementary School/Mira Vista Elementary School Restroom Renovations, Bid 1441205-09 Nystrom Elementary School Interim Campus

C.6 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated

C.7 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44258.3

C.8 Acceptance of Contracts for Placement of Student Teachers

C.9 Presentation of Joint Initial Bargaining Proposal from West Contra Costa Unified School District and West Contra Costa Administrators Association

C.10 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.11 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.12 Designation of Citizens' Bond Oversight for Measure E 2012

C.13 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointments

C.14 Certification of Athletic Coaches – Fall Sports

C.15 Certification of November 6, 2012 Election Results – Bond Measure E and Parcel Tax Measure G

C.16 Certification of November 6, 2012 Election Results – Election to the Office of the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.16. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative George Howard (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Religious/Cultural Celebration

Mr. Greer spoke on the diverse holiday celebrations on-going in the District. He recognized thirteen holidays celebrated by the District's students and community.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey spoke on the importance of recognizing the diversity of the community. Ms. Merriweather commented on the District's long standing history of celebrating diverse cultural holidays. President Kronenberg spoke about living in a global community and supporting everyone's culture and attending the Lake Elementary winter festival.

D.2 Standing Reports

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi reported on the last Academic Sub-committee meeting held on December 11, 2012 where teachers gave feedback on the Common Core Standards and site presentations. The next meeting will be January 22, 2013, 6:30 PM at Helms Middle School.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Ramsey chaired the committee's December meeting. He reported that the committee would recommend the 2013 debt limit waiver application be renewed with a change from 6% to 5%. He updated the Board on the process under way for selecting architects for Lake, Olinda and Cameron elementary schools. He also spoke about the District's efforts to raise its credit rating which would help with the bonds program. The next meeting will be January 8, 2013 at 4 PM.

Ivy League Connection. Mr. Ramsey asked Mr. Greer to assist in finding more students to apply for the Ivy League programs and scholarships. He spoke about an upcoming meeting with a former Yale University director who was instrumental with the District's Young Scholars Program. President Kronenberg reported that four students from Pinole Valley High had been selected for the Vanderbilt University program. She also thanked Don Gosney for his hard work and efforts working with the students and staff.

College and Career Readiness. Mr. Greer spoke about attending a Leadership Conference in Glendale on December 4th and 5th with nine other school districts. He announced that the District will be hosting the spring California ConnectEd Residence that will take place May 20 and 21, 2013.

Safety Committee. Ms. Merriweather announced the next meeting for December 13, 9 AM at North Campus. The agenda will discuss the newly adopted suspension resolution and alternative programs.

Youth Commission. President Kronenberg reported that at the last Youth Commission meeting a president was elected and by-laws adopted. The Commission will be working with Ms. Bertha Romo toward a community service project. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2013.

D.3 In Memory of Members of the School Community

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

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey Mr. Groves and Mr. Enos spoke of knowing Mr. Erickson and Mr. Collor and their contributions to the District.

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 - Robinson Weeks Scholarship Fund

Robinson Weeks Scholarship staff spoke about the organization's history in Richmond and their work to offer financial assistance to college bound students. They spoke about collaborating with the District to make schools and students aware of the availability of scholarships.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

E.3 WCCUSD Public Comment

Felicia Robertson, Diane Brown, Scott Brown and Eduardo Martinez

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 First Interim Report, 2012-2013

Ms. Gamba presented the First Interim Financial Report for the accounting period that ended October 31, 2012. The report included updated information for all funds from the State of California, utilizing budget assumptions from published School Services of California as recommended by the County Office. Ms. Gamba recommended the Board approve a positive certification. She also reported that the Community Budget Advisory Committee members will be attending a state budget conference in January.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey thanked Ms. Gamba for an excellent report. He suggested that Lake Elementary and Shannon Elementary Schools be removed from any discussion about deficit spending because the schools were kept open. He said he believed that class size reduction is the biggest issue concerning the community and suggested the Board discuss restoring this to the budget. He said he supported the report and is glad that the District will have a positive certification.

Mr. Groves had a few questions about the attendance percentages. Ms. Gamba clarified and spoke about the different approaches implemented to increase student attendance within the District. Mr. Groves asked about attendance projections for future attendance. Ms. Gamba responded.

Ms. Merriweather asked about deferral funds and when it would be reflected in the financial report. Ms. Gamba responded. Ms. Merriweather further asked for clarification on flexibility funding and lottery funds. Ms. Gamba clarified.

President Kronenberg asked Ms. Gamba about her suggestions in the report for changing staffing and implementing a support staff study. Ms. Gamba suggested more staff may be needed to maintain the new facilities and added technology in optimal condition. Ms. Gamba suggested working with the maintenance and facilities staff to implement criteria for the best standard to use.

Mr. Ramsey asked if there was anything the staff could do to renegotiate the costs on the certificates of participation. Ms. Gamba responded.

Student Representative George Howard left the meeting for the evening.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the First Interim Report, 2012-2013. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.2 Notice of Public Hearing Regarding Request for Bond Waiver

This item was removed from the agenda by staff to return for action at a later date.

F.3 Resolution No. 55-1213: Intent to Seek Debt Limit Waiver from State Board of Education for Sale of remaining General Obligation Bonds as approved by voters under Measure E, 2012

This item was removed from the agenda by staff to return for action at a later date.

F.4 Public Hearing and Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from Local One to the West Contra Costa Unified School District

President Kronenberg opened public hearing.

Public Comment:
None

President Kronenberg closed public hearing

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal from Local One to the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.5 Public Hearing and Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal – School Supervisors Association

President Kronenberg opened public hearing

Public Comment:

None

President Kronenberg closed public hearing.

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Adoption of Initial Bargaining Proposal – School Supervisors Association. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

G.1 Modification to the Kennedy High School Attendance Boundaries

Superintendent Harter discussed Kennedy High School as being located within the El Cerrito High attendance area and that students who live next to or right across the street from Kennedy are required to attend ECHS. Superintendent Harter requested the Board's permission conduct community meetings in January, meeting with students, neighborhood associations and if favorable, return to the Board with a recommendation after the public meetings.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members spoke in support of seeking community input and looking forward to a recommendation to come back to the Board.

G.2 Project Status Report

Mr. Abdalla reported on the progress of the construction projects at the District's schools.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey had questions about the usage of the El Cerrito baseball field. Mr. Abdalla and Superintendent Harter responded.

Mr. Groves asked about the demolition of the former Portola buildings. Mr. Abdalla responded.

Mr. Ramsey asked about the progress of El Cerrito High's football stadium. Mr. Abdalla responded.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Ramsey said he was looking forward to working with new board members. He requested a special study session to take place on December 19, 2012 with the intent of seeking community input and Board discussion about budget priorities. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Enos, and President Kronenberg supported holding a special meeting on December 19.

Ms. Merriweather welcomed the new members and thanked them for taking the bold step of running for public office. She announced the Human Rights Celebration at Richmond High on December 13, 2012. She concluded by wishing everyone a nice winter break.

Superintendent Harter spoke about looking for a funder to initiate a new districtwide strategic planning process. He requested volunteers to review qualifications for a consultant. Mr. Groves and Mr. Ramsey volunteered.

President Kronenberg thanked everyone and wished everyone happy holidays.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – January 9, 2013

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:30 P.M.

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

BH:tt

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CTR</u> Approved 1-23-13</p>
