

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

**April 10, 2013**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.  
President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:31 P.M.

**B.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Kronenberg led the pledge of allegiance.

**B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures**

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

**B.3 Roll Call**

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

**Staff Present:** Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Ora Anderson, Special Education Director; John Banister, Special Education Administrator; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; 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; Wendy Pangelina, Human Resources Technician, Keith Holtslander, Director of Facilities; Reyna Ortiz de Touriel, Interpreter; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services; Katie VonHusen, Coordinator Education Services; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations

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

Mr. Hector Quintana provided a report of activities at Vista High School.

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

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session regarding a settlement agreement in which MaxAmerica Insurance will be paying the District \$108,000 for the Nystrom vandalism incident of February 2012.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval to ratify the action taken in Closed Session to approve a settlement agreement. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Ms. Merriweather abstaining and no absences. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.**

**B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption**

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the agenda to include moving items E.2, F.1 and F.2 up on the agenda. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**B.7 Minutes: March 20, 2013; March 27, 2013**

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of March 20, 2013 and March 27, 2013. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**C. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements**

- C.2 Acceptance of Donations
- C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities
- C.4 Contracted Services
- C.5 Notice of Completions: Bid 1471390-01 Peres Dental Clinic, Bid J068150 Dover Elementary School Increment 2 New School, Bid 1121341-04 Coronado Elementary School Demolition, Bid J068288 Kennedy High School ADA Upgrades, and Bid 1261612-00 Lupine Hills Elementary School Shade Structure
- C.6 CalPERS Retiree Health Care Resolutions – for those retiring prior to January 2007
  - Resolution #75-1213 – Unrepresented Management
  - Resolution #76-1213 – Public Employees Union (Local One)
  - Resolution #77-1213 – School Supervisors Association (SSA)
  - Resolution #78-1213 – West Contra Costa Administrators’ Association (WCCAA)
  - Resolution #79-1213 – Unrepresented Confidential
  - Resolution #80-1213 – United Teachers of Richmond (UTR)
- C.7 First Reading: BP 7214.4 Investor Relations and BP 7214.3 Bond Refunding  
This item was pulled for discussion.
- C.8 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44258.3
- C.9 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)
- C.10 California State Athletic Directors Association State Conference
- C.11 Middle College Students attending Student Leadership Conference April 13-17, 2013
- C.12 Middle School Physical Education Waiver  
This item was pulled for discussion.
- C.13 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts
- C.14 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders
- C.15 Annual Financial Audit of District Bond Program
- C.16 Annual Proposition 39 Performance Audit of the District Bond Program  
Mr. Ramsey commented on the report regarding management of the largest bond program in Northern California.
- C.17 Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Norma Martinez-Rubin appointed by Supervisor Glover
- C.18 Resolution No. 82-1213: District Policy and Procedures for Determination of Non-Responsibility and Debarment of Contractors
- C.19 Measure J and D 2010 and Measure E 2012 Program Budget Updates
- C.20 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Portola MS at Castro ES
- C.21 Nystrom Elementary School Abatement and Selective Demolition Award of Contract
- C.22 Williams Lawsuit Complaints Quarterly Report
- C.23 Acceptance of Contra Costa County Office of Education 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report for Williams Settlement Legislation

**MOTION:** Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.6, C.8 – C. 11, and C.13 – C.23. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

**MOTION:** Mr. Ramsey moved approval of removing item D.2 Report on King TECHS Club Program from the agenda. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

- E.2 Request to Address the Board on CALRTA Volunteer Hours  
Ms. Elizabeth Underwood and Ms. Nancy Hendricksen of the California Retired Teachers of America provided a report regarding the fact that they have donated 51,000+ hours of volunteering in our schools.

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**  
Board members thanked and congratulated the retired teachers for their help.

## F.1 Scholar in Residence

Superintendent Harter and Mr. Groves provided insight on the project and how other districts are benefiting from the Scholar in Residence program. Discussion included information about how this would provide a different approach to Professional Development. It was suggested to pilot the program with middle schools using the Universal Design for Learning program.

### **Public Comment:**

Mary Schmida, Bobbie Bowling

### **Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey had comments about making changes but not doing research.

Mr. Enos had questions regarding the program's implementation.

Ms. Merriweather said she agreed with Mr. Enos saying she felt the timing was not right for the project.

Student Representative Hector Quintana said he agreed and believed that the District currently has well qualified teachers.

President Kronenberg stated that she liked the project and would support it.

Mr. Ramsey asked Mr. Groves about the ultimate goal of the project. Mr. Groves replied that this is an opportunity to use new perspectives to improve learning for students.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Scholar in Residence. Mr. Groves seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voting yes, Mr. Enos and Ms. Merriweather voting no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 3-2-0-0.**

## F.2 Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music

Superintendent Harter introduced the item with information about restoring the instrumental music program with the strategy of enhancing fine arts in the District.

### **Public Comment:**

Heidi Bartsch, Bobbie Bowling

### **Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey commented on the need to initially adopt this program into the feeder schools for Portola rather than across the District to all elementary schools at once.

Mr. Groves commented that the program will be focused on just those Portola feeder schools and then rolled into other phases.

Ms. Merriweather said she did not want the program to be at just a select few schools. She suggested determining which schools want the program before implementing.

Mr. Enos said he would like to see music programs return but felt it should be implemented at all schools.

Mr. Ramsey felt strongly that to be successful the program should start off with a few schools first.

Student Representative Hector Quintana said he would like to see the program at all schools.

Superintendent Harter explained that the program is slated to begin in one or possibly two areas that feed into one high school with the possibility of a second high school.

President Kronenberg commented that this is a difficult issue as they all want to see music restored to all schools, but she agreed with implementing into one feeder school pattern first.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music in the El Cerrito High School feeder area including Mira Vista as well as Fairmont, Harding, Kensington, Madera and Stege for 2013-14 and directing the Superintendent to bring a recommendation to the May 15 Board Meeting for implementation at all elementary schools in future years. Mr. Enos seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Hector Quintana (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

The record reflected that Mr. Ramsey left the meeting at 7:32 PM.

## D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

**D.1 Teacher of the Year/Ed. Fund Excellence in Education Award Winner Recognition**

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Ed Fund Executive Director Joel Mackey, who will introduce the five teachers who have been selected to receive Teacher of the Year Awards; Nathan Jackson-Lavonya DeJean Middle School; Beth Levine-Montalvin; Steve Mainini-Kennedy High; Mike Mannix-Richmond High and Eric Verpraukus-Lincoln.

Board Members greeted each of the award recipients and offered congratulations.

**D.2 Report on King TECHS Club Program**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**D.3 WCCUSD Common Core Standards Project Plan**

Ms. Katie Von Husen, Coordinator of Education Services, provided a presentation regarding the hard work and dedication of staff that have collaborated to bring this project together. Ms. Rachel Porzig provided information regarding the implementation. Ms. Rashidchi related the work ahead to complete the full implementation of the Common Core State Standards.

Student Representative Hector Quintana left the meeting for the evening at 7:45 PM.

**Public Comment:**

Betty Buginas, Mary Schmida

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Enos said he appreciated that the teachers are taking ownership and are on board with the implementation of the project.

Ms. Merriweather commented about concerns around the timeline at all sites.

Mr. Groves said he believed this was a great beginning to bringing massive change to all District schools.

President Kronenberg said she sees this as an effective process as the District works toward improving academics.

**D.4 Budget Update**

Ms. Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services, gave a presentation on proposed funding from the State, Local Control Funding Formulas, and Proposition 39 of 2012 as well as other projected revenues and expenditures.

**D.5 Standing Reports**

**Academic Subcommittee.** Ms. Rashidchi reported that the next meeting to be held April 16 will be a town hall meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM at DeJean Middle School.

**Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.** Chairperson Ivette Ricco reported that the committee is working efficiently. She said they hope to improve the website and public outreach to local PTA units. Mr. Fay, Associate Superintendent of Operations reported that the Bond website would updated by the end of May.

**Community Budget Advisory Committee.** Ms. Gamba reported that the next meeting is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Facilities Subcommittee.** President Kronenberg reported on the April 9 meeting where discussion included the Dover demolition and updates on Portola and Shannon elementary. She also remarked on the potential relocation of the Facilities Operations Center and the Information Technology departments.

**Ivy League Connection.** President Kronenberg reported on the students and chaperons selected for this year's program, as well as local alumni dinners upcoming in May.

**Safety Committee.** Ms. Merriweather stated that the next meeting is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Youth Commission.** President Kronenberg reported on the recent Youth Commission meeting where Commissioners learned about the District's debt limit waiver and efforts to reach out to the State Board of Education.

**Global Youth Service Day.** Mr. Greer spoke about the upcoming Global Youth Service Day in partnership with the City of Richmond.

The record reflected that Mr. Ramsey returned to the meeting at 8:47 PM.

**E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**  
(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

**E.3 WCCUSD Public Comment**  
Giorgio Cosentino, Connie Calderon-Jensen

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

**E.2 Request to Address the Board on CALRTA Volunteer Hours**  
This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

**C.12 Middle School Physical Education Waiver**  
Superintendent Harter reported that at the March 27, 2013 special meeting about the Portola feeder pattern schools, the Board heard a staff report regarding modifications in practices that would allow middle school students to access a Physical Education Waiver similar to that allowed in high school.

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**  
Mr. Groves had questions about how students will apply for the Physical Education Waiver. Mr. Greer replied with information about the physical fitness examination scores for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to test out for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Superintendent Harter elaborated with further detail.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of C.12 Middle School Physical Education Waiver. Mr. Enos 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.**

**C.7 First Reading: BP 7214.4 Investor Relations and BP 7214.3 Bond Refunding**  
Ms. Gamba presented information regarding the board policies and also introduced the advisors for the bond finance program; Krishna Pettit of GCR LLP, Dave Olson of KNN Public Finance, Jeff Barratta of Piper Jaffrey, Scott Henry of De La Rosa and Company.

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**  
Mr. Ramsey had questions regarding investors' perception of the District. Staff responded.

**E.3 WCCUSD Public Comment**  
This item was moved to follow item D. 5.

**F. ACTION ITEMS**

**F.1 Scholar in Residence**  
This item was moved to follow item E.2.

**F.2 Restoration of Elementary Instrumental Music**  
This item was moved to follow item F. 1 earlier on the agenda.

**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey had questions about the Pinole Middle, Downer and Coronado projects. Mr. Abdalla stated they would be completed by summer.

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

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

Mr. Ramsey reported on attending the El Sobrante Municipal Advisory Committee meeting regarding the District's debt limit waiver application.

Mr. Enos thanked staff for everyone's hard work.

Mr. Groves remarked on the sincerity of tonight's speakers.

President Kronenberg spoke of Ivy League Connection and students traveling to Fisk University.

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

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – April 24, 2013

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:34 P.M.

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

BH: wp

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>CTR</u></b> Approved 4/24/13</p>
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