

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

June 12, 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; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; 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; Keith Holtslander, Director of Facilities; Reyna Ortiz de Touriel, Interpreter; Vince Rhea, Gompers Continuation High School Principal; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

B.4 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to appoint four administrators:

Carol Butcher, Executive Director K-12
Anne Shin, Middle College High School Principal
Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer
Traci Bonde, Business Analyst

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the action taken in Closed Session to appoint administrators. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Mr. Ramsey, Ms. Merriweather, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the agenda, including moving item D.5 to follow D.2. 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.

B.6 Minutes: March 26, 2013; May 7, 2013; May 15, 2013

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of March 26, 2013; May 7, 2013; and May 15, 2013. 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.

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 Contracted Services

- C.6 Notification of Claim Rejected**
- C.7 Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for Special Education**
- C.8 Certificated Board Authorization – Education Code 44328**
- C.9 Acceptance of contracts for Placement of Student Teachers**
- C.10 Approve the following revised job description: Coordinator, Disaster Preparedness and Safety**
- C.11 Approve the following New Job Description: Energy Conservation Program Manager**
- C.12 Approve the following New Job Description: IT Helpdesk Technician**
- C.13 Approve the following New Job Description: Purchasing Technician**
- C.14 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**
- C.15 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**
- C.16 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders – M&O**
- C.17 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Bayview Exterior Repairs**
This item was tabled from the agenda.
- C.18 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Grant Elementary School & Lake Elementary School Fire Alarm Modernization**
- C.19 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Kensington Elementary School Moisture Abatement**
- C.20 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Verde Elementary School Restrooms Renovation**
- C.21 Resolution of the Governing Board of West Contra Costa Unified School District Designating Specific Materials, Products, Things, or Services for Use on Public Works Projects Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 3400**
- C.22 Memorandum of Understanding for Provisions of Special Education Services to Making Waves Academy Charter School**
- C.23 Approval of Board Members Travel**

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.16 and C.18 - C.23. 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.

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

D.1 Recognition of Student Athletes

Mr. Greer introduced Kennedy High School Principal Phil Johnson who spoke about the strong track program led by Coach Carl Sumler. Coach Sumler introduced the team members and spoke about their wonderful season. Mr. Greer introduced Principal Jen Bender from Hercules High who introduced the Athletic Director Jason Strickland and coaches. Badminton Coaches Norman Chan and Andre Alvarez introduced the team members. El Cerrito High School Principal David Luongo recognized the school's track coach Johnny Holmes and student athlete Austin Harper student. The North Coast Championship Badminton team from Pinole Valley High was recognized. Coach Kahn introduced the students and spoke about their season.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members spoke highly of the student athletes and their coaches, commending them for their successful seasons as well as maintaining high grade point averages.

D.2 West Contra Costa Unified School District presents: "Classified Employee of the Year"

Mr. Whittemore introduced and recognized this year's Classified Employees of the Year, Linda Rhea, Laura Cruz, Virginia Lawson, and Mary Jones. Board members personally congratulated each award honoree.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members commended the honorees offering their congratulations.

D.5 Report on Progress of the Strategic Plan Development

Superintendent Harter spoke about the District's work with Capital Impact and Third Plateau to engage the community around input in drafting a new five year strategic plan. Mr. Jay Schenirer from Capital Impact provided

an update on the process to date as well as a timeline for the development of the strategic plan. Mr. Schenirer reported that the number one topic of response from the community has been closing the achievement gap and educational equity for all students. He described the four phases of the work which include fact finding, visioning in focus groups and town hall meetings, analysis of data, and presentation and approval of a final plan.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey commented that the process is moving along well and spoke about stigma and biases when referring to the term achievement gap. He would like to see strategies and assessments to address student achievement success. He spoke about creating opportunity to enable individual students to become fully engaged. Mr. Schenirer spoke about the framing of the plan for student centered systems and student success across the District.

Mr. Enos asked about raw data for analysis. Mr. Schenirer responded affirmatively saying that the final proposed plan will include an executive summary, frames for posting throughout the district and appendices with all of the raw data.

Ms. Merriweather asked about a community wide town hall. Mr. Schenirer responded saying the next planned meeting is scheduled for August, before the start of school. He said the communication efforts have been very successful with feedback from the community. Another teacher event will also be planned to take place after the start of school.

Mr. Groves commended the team for the amount of time that has been committed to this effort. He asked Mr. Schenirer about qualitative data analysis. Mr. Schenirer responded affirmatively saying that the response has far exceeded expectations.

President Kronenberg commented on the breadth and depth to the work. She said the Steering Committee members are very committed to this effort and that this community wants the school district to work well.

Mr. Schenirer thanked the Superintendent, staff and the Board for their commitment.

D.3 Communication Strategy for Fair Assessed Valuation

Superintendent Harter introduced John Whitehurst to speak about the District's communication initiative regarding a positive influence on assessed property valuation in the community. Mr. Whitehurst said that the District is faced with an important issue that reaches beyond schools and the community. His purpose is to initiate the conversation regarding assessed values of properties and how this relates to the District's bond program and funding overall. He explained that under Proposition 13 property is assessed at the original sale price and can have an annual adjustment not to exceed 2% as prescribed by law. In 1978 an amendment, Proposition 8, allowed temporary reductions for assessed valuations if the property suffered a decline in value. He explained the impact statewide with the recent recession resulting in a huge loss of revenue to cities, counties and school districts. The impact to the District from the reduction in assessed property values has limited potential revenue for the bond construction program. He gave statistics that showed Contra Costa County as lagging behind assessed values of other counties in the state.

Public Comment:
None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey said this was good information for the public. He had questions regarding county assessors and oversight. He spoke of comparisons with other communities in the Bay Area.

President Kronenberg spoke about the tax assessor's role to see that property owners pay a fair share and the consequence of diminished services impacting people.

D.4 Preliminary Budget for 2013-14

Ms. Gamba shared good news regarding the Legislative compromises and potential of an approved state budget. She provided a presentation regarding the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) compromise that has been reached by legislature. She also provided information about revenue changes for LCFF and other information regarding revenue allocation models. She said that staff is working to prepare a final 2013-14 budget for Board approval.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members had questions about the LCFF revenue models and formulas. Ms. Gamba provided clarification.

D.5 Report on Progress of the Strategic Plan Development

This item was moved to follow item D.2.

D.6 Standing Reports

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Merriweather reported that the committee will meet with Ms. Rashidchi to plan the meeting schedule for the upcoming school year.

College & Career. Mr. Greer spoke about posters that will be used to publicize the Linked Learning program over summer to inform the community. He reported on the very successful Academy Awards program held in May where four other school districts joined as critical partners. In the next few weeks, District staff will attend a summer learning institute at Stanford University to deepen the pathway work.

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba reported on attending May budget workshops.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Ramsey reported on the upcoming presentations on projects at the June 19 meeting. He said the committee heard about the Coronado site discovery and removal of an antiquated heating oil tank. The committee also heard about the impact of the freeway walking overpass landing near Riverside Elementary. The next committee meeting will be scheduled for July 9th. Ms. Merriweather asked about summer projects. Mr. Ramsey responded.

Ivy League Connection. Mr. Ramsey reported that several of the student groups will begin their summer programs on June 18 and 19. He said he recently met with representatives at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University in hopes of developing programs in the future. President Kronenberg spoke about the students blogs.

Safety Committee. Mr. Greer spoke about a Full Service Community planning meeting held at Mira Vista Elementary with 25 partners in attendance. The meeting, under the direction of Ms. Merriweather, centered on keeping students safe and healthy.

Technology Committee. Mr. Groves reported on the appointment of the new Chief Technology Officer. He said there is a lot of work ahead with Common Core State Standards and bond issues.

Youth Commission. Mr. Greer reported that the committee will reconvene in August.

D.7 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:

Mr. Ramsey said he was saddened by the death of the father of an Ivy League Connection alumnus. He said his sentiments are with the family.

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

Mr. Groves left the dais.

F.1 Approval of Agreement with United Teachers of Richmond (UTR) / AB1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement with UTR

Superintendent Harter recommended that the Board approved the bargaining agreement with the United Teachers of Richmond.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Agreement with United Teachers of Richmond (UTR) / AB1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement with UTR. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

F.2 Public Hearing Resolution No. 93-1213: A Resolution Approving Engineer's Report, Confirming Diagram and Assessment and Ordering the Continuation of the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal year 2013-2014

Superintendent Harter recommended the Board approve the third and final MRAD resolution with the engineer's report for fiscal year 2013-2014.

President Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

President Kronenberg closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Resolution No. 93-1213: A Resolution Approving Engineer's Report, Confirming Diagram and Assessment and Ordering the Continuation of the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal year 2013-2014. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

F.3 Modification to Board Calendar / Additional Study Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to approve the modification to the Board calendar to move the August 14 meeting to Monday, August 12 as well as add a special workshop meeting on August 7 to review schools in decile 1 and reports of targeted interventions.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Modification to Board Calendar and Additional Study Session. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Groves absent. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

Mr. Groves returned to the dais.

F.4 Special Education Annual Service Plan and Budget

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to approve the Special Education Annual Service Plan and Budget for final adoption.

President Kronenberg opened the public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

President Kronenberg closed the public hearing.

Board Comment:

None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Special Education Annual Service Plan and Budget. 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.

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 thanked staff for their hard work. He said that he felt the bond program was progressing well. He commented on the advance work done for the City of San Pablo to move the community center project forward. Mr. Ramsey spoke about the excitement with the Portola construction project as well as other projects throughout the District.

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Merriweather said she enjoyed seeing the student athlete and classified employee recognitions. She commended the District for showing appreciation of employees and students. She concluded by saying that the passage of the LCFF implied that financial funding is looking up.

Mr. Groves spoke of the strategic plan, the LCFF and work on Common Core. He said there is a lot going on around the District. He applauded his colleagues and staff to see these initiatives launched.

Mr. Enos said he looked forward to a busy summer.

Mr. Ramsey commented on the Extended Learning program graduation scheduled for July. He offered his congratulations to all graduates. He spoke about an upcoming celebration regarding the approval of the Debt Limit Waiver as well as the one year anniversary of District's independence from state takeover.

President Kronenberg announced the next meeting for June 19 where County Assessor Gus Kramer will address the Board. She offered good wishes for Father's Day to the fathers on the Board and in the audience.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – June 26, 2013

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:23 P.M.

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

BH:dh