

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

**August 12, 2013**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session.  
President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:34 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:** Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Linda Delgado, Coordinator Education Services; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Keith Holtslander, Director of Facilities; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Leticia Oregon, Interpreter; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer, Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Mike Wasilchin, Human Resources Director Classified; 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 administrators:

Marci Williams, Director Human Resources – Employee Relations  
Mimi Melodia, Coordinator Education Services  
Stephanie Serrano, Principal Ohlone Elementary  
Claudia Velez, Assistant Principal Peres Elementary

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

**B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption**

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the agenda to include moving item F. 1 to follow Consent Items. 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: July 24, 2013**

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey made corrections to the Minutes of July 24, 2013 regarding Consent Item C.13. Mr. Ramsey then moved approval of the Corrected Minutes of July 24, 2013. Mr. Enos seconded the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. 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.7 WCCUSD Public Comment**

Joanna Pace, Nancy Barker

**B.8 Request to Address the Board – Billie Alexander**

Mr. Alexander addressed the Board regarding Proposition 30 and Assembly Bill 1729. He stressed concerns about the needs of young men of color and the duty of everyone to support success in academics, access to health care and employment. He asked that Proposition 30 funds be used to support the social and emotional needs of these students.

**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. 28-1314: Replacement of Outdated Warrant**

**C.6 Contracted Services**

**C.7 Agreements for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services**

Mr. Groves had questioned about performance evaluations of these contracts. Mr. Collins responded with information regarding SELPA's requirement to review and visit sites on a regular basis.

**C.8 Notice of Completions: Bid 1121341-05 Coronado & Stege Elementary School Storm Drain Extension, 2141103-08 Portola Middle School Demolition of Existing Campus, Bid 1471390-00 Peres Elementary School Modernization I, and Bid 3601364-06 Kennedy High School Kitchen Flooring Replacement**

**C.9 Community Budget Advisory Committee Amended Member Ratification**

**C.10 CalPERS Retiree Health Care Resolutions – for those retiring prior to January 1, 2007**

**Resolution No. 17-1314 – Unrepresented Classified Confidential**

**Resolution No. 18-1314 – Public Employees Union (Local One)**

**Resolution No. 19-1314 – School Supervisors Association (SSA)**

**Resolution No. 20-1314 – Unrepresented Management**

**Resolution No. 21-1314 – United Teachers of Richmond (UTR)**

**Resolution No. 22-1314 – West Contra Costa Administrators' Association (WCCAA)**

**C.11 CalPERS Retiree Benefit Resolutions – for those retiring after December 31, 2006 and before July 1, 2010**

**Resolution No. 23-1314: Unrepresented Classified Confidential**

**Resolution No. 24-1314: Public Employees Union (Local 1)**

**Resolution No. 25-1314: School Supervisors Association (SSA)**

**Resolution No. 26-1314: Unrepresented Management**

**Resolution No. 27-1314: West Contra Costa Administrators Association (WCCAA)**

**C.12 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44258.3**

**C.13 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)**

**C.14 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated**

**C.15 Routine Personnel Changes – Classified**

**C.16 Acceptance of Contracts for Placement of Student Teachers**

**C.17 Approve the following New Salary Schedules: Helms Middle School, De Anza High School, Cameron School**

**C.18 Approve the following Reclassifications and New Job Descriptions effective July 1, 2013**

**C.19 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**

**C.20 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**

**C.21 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract (CUPCCAA): Kennedy High School Temporary Science Classroom Fume Hood Installation**

**C.22 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract (CUPCCAA): Kennedy High School Temporary Science Classroom Emergency Shower Installation**

**C.23 Kennedy High School Science Building Renovation Award of Contract**

**C.24 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Dover ES MPR Demolition**

**C.25 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Dover ES Building A Security Camera Upgrade**

**C.26 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Dennis Hicks appointed by Building Trades Council**

**C.27 Travel to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Fab Lab Conference August 20 – 27 in Japan**

**MOTION:** Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.27. 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.

**F.1 Staff Recommendation, Summit Schools**

Dr. Linda Delgado provided information regarding the Summit Public Schools (SPS) K-2 Charter School petition. Dr. Delgado addressed concerns that were shared with the charter school staff regarding 1) inadequate information on structured language development for English Language Learners, 2) inadequate descriptions concerning the process for student discipline and, 3) concern at the small number of signatures and locale of addresses for prospective student interest in enrolling for the intended start date not representative of the projected enrollment targets. She shared that SPS offered responses to provided greater support for English Language Learners, seeking to avoid all unnecessary discipline actions, and having significant financial backing and hiring of an experienced principal who will use significant outreach efforts. The recommendation of staff is to grant the petition pending execution of a memorandum of understanding that resolves the identified concerns and other operational issues.

**Public Comment:**

Joanna Pace, Margaret Browne, Tyler Sussman, Dennis Cody, Ben Steinberg, Alonn Ilan, Michael Peritz, Nerissa Wu, Thomas Prather, Jerry Simmons, Jennifer Lyle, Bobbie Dowling, Romy Douglass, Victoria Folks, Leslie Reckler, Bea Lieberman, Catherine Collen, Scottie Smith, Cameron Moore, Mary Flanagan, John Irminger, Diego Arambula, David Castillo, Lakisia Hill

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey thanked Summit for sharing their proposals. He said he felt compelled to identify key salient issues critical to the fabric of District. The comments made regarding an unconditional approval caused him to recall the Brown vs. Board of Education decision regarding separate but unfair educational applications. He spoke of schools in certain parts of town where students were bussed to accommodate integration in other parts of town. He expressed concern about placing 675 students at a site not configured for a campus of that size. He also commented about student transportation that he believed was not adequate for students. He also expressed concern from the standpoint of Summit wanting the District to modify the recommendations and the lack of outreach efforts to the target community.

Mr. Enos thanked Summit staff and Ms. Kelly Garcia for her time to provide him with information. He reflected as a resident and teacher in the community, as well as an elected official serving every child in the District. He had concern that the issues were not addressed fully.

Mr. Groves asked about the process for approval of the recommendation. Superintendent Harter responded that staff's recommendation is to approve the charter subject to the successful negotiation of a memorandum of understanding. Mr. Groves continued by saying he did not think the application was a good idea. The school could hurt more children than it could help causing damaging drops in enrollment in the other District schools. The public has spoken with overwhelming opposition to this charter. While he thought that Summit is committed to serving students most in need in the District, he had concern that they will have difficulty reaching those students. While he thought that the charter would be approved at the county or state level, he expressed concern about the Board denying the charter thereby eliminating a directive role for the District. Because of that, he would support the charter.

Ms. Merriweather said that she had thoroughly read the proposal, and said that the issue had been framed well by Mr. Ramsey and Mr. Enos. She said she would not support the charter.

President Kronenberg remarked that a charter is supposed to serve anyone and share innovative practices outside the norm of traditional school. She said that Summit is most interested in having 100% engaged parents at their school. She went on to say that the District does not have that degree of engagement at any school. She feared that parents who are engaged will be siphoned off at a deficit to those remaining at public schools. She said that she could not support the petition.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to deny the charter under the guidelines that it cannot meet the capacity of heterogeneous groupings and the demand for unconditional conditions. Superintendent Harter repeated and clarified the motion that the Board had made a finding of fact that Summit would not meet the guidelines to be a school that reflects the District population, that the Board will not approve a charter unconditionally, and that the petition provided inadequate information about student transportation.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to deny the Summit Schools charter petition. Mr. Enos seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voting yes, Mr. Groves voting no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.**

## **D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS**

**Public Employees Local One.** Scott Brown spoke about negotiations in hopes of coming to an understanding that will benefit the membership. He extended thanks to Ms. Jellison and Ms. Brown around food service positions and salary increases for some of the lowest wage workers in the District. Mr. Brown continued to say that due to personal issues, he has tendered his resignation with Local One as of August 30. He spoke of the emotional time and taking great honor in representing the classified men and women with District.

**School Supervisors Association.** Sandra Falk spoke highly of her colleague Scott Brown. She thanked the Board for passing the reorganization and reclassification items on the agenda, recalling the many months of work with food service staff and District negotiators. She also thanked the Board for its vote on the charter school with respect to the idea of siphoning off committed parents. In her opinion charter schools are unintentionally creating another separate but equal class in public education. She encouraged the Board to fight to maintain a free public education available to everyone.

**United Teachers of Richmond.** Diane Brown thanked the Board for denying the charter petition and its commitment to teachers and families in the District. She shared information about charter schools that cause isolation of students by race and class. She also shared information about the reform strategy called a ringing strategy where the corporate sponsored charter would surround but not locate in an area with disadvantaged families, meaning that only the most committed families make the effort to enroll.

## **E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

### **E.1 Standing Reports**

**Academic Subcommittee.** Ms. Rashidchi announced that the first meeting of the school year will take place September 17, 6:30 at Helms Middle School.

**College and Career Readiness.** Mr. Greer said that College and Career Readiness would be discussed at the October 16 Academic Subcommittee meeting. A future presentation will be made to the Board regarding the broad-based coalition.

**Facilities Subcommittee.** Mr. Ramsey recapped a meeting for the approval for the Lake School construction which included a plan for how the site will be used to enhance educational purposes and maximize function. He said that one hundred parents participated in the meeting. He said that other items on the Facilities Subcommittee agenda included the Pinole Middle School fields, bidding for the El Cerrito stadium as well as the Richmond swim center at Kennedy High School.

**Community Budget Advisory Committee.** Ms. Gamba reported that the committee met recently where a robust discussion was held regarding the Local Control Funding Formula. The committee is seeking parent and business leaders to join the membership. She welcomed Mary Flanagan, teacher at Nystrom, to the committee.

**Ivy League Connection.** Mr. Ramsey reported on the successful summer programs with thirty-eight students participating. He shared that in October the University of Pennsylvania will come to the District to meet with students and counselors to share what they look for in college applications. He said that Northwestern, Brown, and John Hopkins Universities have all committed to District information nights.

**Safety Committee.** Ms. Merriweather said that the first meeting of the school year will be held September 5th at the Richmond Police Department, 9:00 AM.

**Technology Committee.** Ms. Phillips reported on the current work on installation of wireless access at all sites, supplying laptops and LCD projectors to teachers in classrooms as well as the computer refresh program which will replace older technology. The committee will meet the first week of September.

**Youth Commission.** Mr. Greer reported that a student representative will attend beginning with the September Board meeting.

### **E.2 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

**F. ACTION ITEMS**

**F.1 Staff Recommendation, Summit Schools**

This item was moved to follow Consent Items.

**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**G.1 Project Status Report**

Mr. Holtlander provided an update of construction projects in the District.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey asked Mr. Holtlander to provide reports on Coronado and Montalvin in the September update.

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

None

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

Mr. Ramsey asked that his corrections to the minutes be repeated for clarification. He remarked about the opening of school for DeAnza and Helms beginning August 13, as well as the Decile 1 and strategic planning information shared at recent meetings. He asked President Kronenberg to adjourn the meeting in honor of Scott Brown and Public Employees Union Local One.

Mr. Enos remarked about the work for students.

Ms. Merriweather reported on the recent Richmond High School freshman orientation and her opportunity to meet with Transitional Kindergarten teachers. She asked the audience to participate on August 28, in sixty-three minutes of peace honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She said that community leaders will provide positive events for the community participation from 3:00 to 4:03 on that day.

Mr. Groves said he looked forward to the next three weeks without Board meetings.

President Kronenberg said she was surprised to learn about Mr. Brown leaving and remarked that he had served the organization well with passion and commitment. She hoped his replacement would be as passionate and committed to represent the membership. President Kronenberg closed meeting in honor of Mr. Brown.

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

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – September 11, 2013

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 8:55 P.M.

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

BH:dh

<b><u>CTR</u></b> Approved 9/11/13
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