

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

November 6, 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 6:31 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; Linda Delgado, Coordinator Education Services; Luis Freese, Executive Director Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Ken McDaniel, Maintenance Supervisor; Cecilia Mendoza, Executive Director K-12; Daniela Parasidis, Director Fiscal Services; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Reyna Touriel, Translator; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from the Youth Commission

Ms. Tayler Ward provided a report of activities of the Youth Commission made up of students from District high schools.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

None

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the agenda, including moving items F.1 and D.1 to follow B.7. Items C.15, C.16 and F. 2 were tabled. Mr. Enos seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Tayler Ward (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

B.7 Minutes: October 16, 2013

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Minutes of October 16, 2013. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Tayler Ward (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

F.1 Decision Concerning Charter Petition from Richmond Charter Elementary

Dr. Delgado provided a staff report regarding the charter petition submitted for determination. Staff recommended conditional approval of the charter petition pending remedying of deficiencies identified in the findings within at 70 day time period.

Public Comment:

Christina Ochoa, Jessica Gutierrez, Alondra Ochoa, Jacqueline Sanchez, Paula Riddell, Elizabeth Espinoza, Hillary Harmssen, Leslie Schwarze

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey expressed concern about unconfirmed allegations mentioned in the staff findings. He commented about the positive input heard tonight and fairness to the applicant. Dr. Harter suggested removing that piece from the resolution for conditional approval. Mr. Ramsey moved to strike the portion in the Findings of Fact Exhibit A, item I., A., 1 and 2 as there was no basis for making the claim.

Mr. Enos said he was in agreement with Mr. Ramsey about striking the item as well as passing the balance of the resolution with the agreement that improvement is called for by the charter school.

Mr. Groves asked questions of Jorge Lopez, Chief Executive of Amethod Public Schools. Mr. Lopez said that he appreciated the striking of the language of the resolution. He also asked to expedite the remedy process from 70 to 30 days in order to expedite the charter approval. Mr. Groves had questions about contracting of special education services. Mr. Lopez responded with information about all of the Amethod schools contracting as a consortium to a SELPA provider based on need of the students.

Ms. Merriweather asked whether the school had plans for transitional kindergarten. Mr. Lopez spoke about the K-5 program as matter of timing with the petition submitted. He said the program is open to implementing a transitional kindergarten program. Ms. Merriweather also questioned moving the process up to 30 days and completely addressing matters. He responded that he had full confidence about clarifying and amending the required items.

Mr. Ramsey said that he thought 30 days was unrealistic. Mr. Lopez responded with programmatic requirements. Superintendent Harter added that if the charter was approved tonight and Richmond Charter Elementary complies with all findings, there is no additional need for this item to return to the Board for further approval. Staff will bring back a memorandum of understanding for approval once all findings have been addressed.

President Kronenberg said she felt that it important not to rush the process and that she agreed that first section containing allegations should not be part of application.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Conditional Approval of the Charter Petition from Richmond Charter Elementary School with the striking of items I., A., 1 and 2 of Exhibit A. Mr. Enos seconded. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Enos, Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Mr. Ramsey, Student Representative Tayler Ward (advisory vote only), and President Kronenberg voting yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Student Representative Tayler Ward left the meeting for the evening.

D.1 CSBA Names Peres Dental Project as Golden Bell Award Winner

Superintendent Harter said this item was a recognition and affirmation of the Peres Dental Clinic recently named a California School Boards Association Golden Bell award winner. He said that Board will accept the award at the December 7th luncheon as part of the annual conference.

Dr. Dan Tanita, founder, said he is excited for the school district to receive this recognition and that this is a huge leap forward for this kind of program represented in the city, county and state. He said he was amazed and impressed that the state recognized this innovative program. He wanted to get word out to the California Dental Association with news articles about what the District trying to do. This clinic is a model that can be duplicated elsewhere. Dr. Tanita is committed to implement two more clinics at Helms Middle School and Coronado Elementary Schools.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

President Kronenberg said this is an incredible effort on the part of Dr. Tanita and thanked him for his service to the community.

Mr. Groves remarked that this is an extraordinary gift to the students and that this is what full service is for the community.

Ms. Merriweather recalled attending the clinic opening and thought it extraordinary to be in an elementary school. She said the benefits are being seen for students with this state wide award.

Mr. Enos recalled seeing the clinic in action and thanked Dr. Tanita on behalf of the community.

Dr. Tanita said the kids feel the pride in ownership that theirs is only clinic in District. He said that many students return after leaving Peres to say hello to staff and the doctors.

B.8 WCCUSD Public Comment

Corey Mason

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 Notification of Claims Rejected

C.6 Certificated Board Authorization - Education Code 44258.3

C.7 Routine Personnel Changes - Certificated

C.8 Acceptance of Contracts for Placement of Student Teachers

C.9 Board Policy 1312.3 – Community Relations

C.10 Procurement Contract for Audio Visual Equipment to support Common Core Program in the Classroom

Mr. Ramsey had questions about the cost of technology equipment to which Ms. Phillips responded.

C.11 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

C.12 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

C.13 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract (CUPCCAA)

C.14 Coronado Elementary School Campus Replacement Project Award of Contract

Superintendent Harter read a revision into the record regarding this item:

The District conducted a public bid process for the project. Bids were opened on October 22, 2013. Six Contractors submitted bids. They are as follows: Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc. \$27,059,000; Wright Contracting \$27,240,000; Alien Construction \$27,382,810; ARTNZ Builders \$28,270,484; Roebbelen Contracting \$28,684,770; MidState Construction \$28,714,670. The bid price includes the contract value, alternate and unit pricing, used for negotiating change orders only. The lowest responsive, responsible bidder is Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc. Staff's Recommendation is to award the contract to Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc.

Mr. Ramsey had questions regarding bid practice for prequalification. Mr. Abdalla and Mr. MacQuarrie responded with clarification.

C.15 Resolution No. 44-1314 Placing Oversight of Measure “E” Funds with the, Measure M, D, J, and D-2010 Citizens Bond Oversight Committee

This item was tabled.

C.16 Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Alex Aliferis

This item was tabled.

C.17 Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Reappointment: Julio Arroyo

C.18 Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Kelvin Love

C.19 Appointment to the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee: James Oakley

C.20 Resolution No. 40-1314: Recognizing Contributions of Veterans to the Country

C.21 Resolution No. 41-1314: American Education Week: November 18 – 22, 2013

C.22 Resolution No: 42-1314: California Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month

C.23 NCLB Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Tutoring Contracts

C.24 Approval of Board Members Travel

C.25 Out of State Travel for Administrators

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Consent Items C.1 – C.14, and C.17 - C.25. 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 CSBA Names Peres Dental Project as Golden Bell Award Winner

This item was moved to follow F.1.

D.2 Budget Update

Ms. Gamba provided a report about the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and differences this revenue method will mean to the District. Ms. Gamba provided detailed information regarding the entitlement calculation formula and projected revenue.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Board members had questions about cash flow, Local Control Accountability Program (LCAP) implementation, categorical programs and prioritizing needs. Ms. Gamba responded with information for clarification.

D.3 Public Hearing for Common Core State Standards Implementation Funds

Ms. Rashidchi reported on the exciting news about funds to transition the District to Common Core State Standards and areas of use.

President Kronenberg opened public hearing.

Public Comment:

None

President Kronenberg closed public the public hearing.

Board Comment:

Board members commented about the technology development tied to Common Core and professional development support to assist staff.

E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

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

E.1 Standing Reports

Academic Subcommittee. Ms. Rashidchi reported on the October meeting where Common Core working groups provided presentations and made recommendations on the work with professional development, supplemental materials, and technology. She reported the next meeting will be held on November 19 at DeAnza High School and will be a District Advisory Night with discussion about Common Core, the Master Plan for English Learners and District policies.

College & Career. Cecilia Mendoza shared about the recent event at DeAnza High School with State Senator Darrell Steinberg, local business leaders and educators. This was an opportunity to showcase a Linked Learning mentor District and announce the upcoming CTE trust grant of \$250 million. This was also an opportunity to generate support from community and industry partners for linked learning efforts. As a mentor district, WCCUSD will work with other districts with an emphasis to continue support for linked learning in our comprehensive high schools.

Community Budget Advisory Committee. Ms. Gamba said the next meeting will be held in November. She thanked the Director of Business Services for hosting the meeting last month in her absence.

Safety Committee. Ms. Merriweather reported that the next meeting was scheduled for November 7th to be held at the Building Blocks for Kids location. She said presentations will be made by Contra Costa Kops for Kids and the Alliance for Healthy Kids. She also announced that the name of the committee has been changed to Safety and School Climate.

Technology Committee. Ms. Phillips announced the next meeting for November 18 at 1300 Potrero Avenue in Richmond at 4:00 PM.

Youth Commission. Mr. Groves announced the next meeting for November 18 at Helms Middle School.

E.2 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

F. ACTION ITEMS

F.1 Decision Concerning Charter Petition from Richmond Charter Elementary

This item was moved to follow item B.7.

F.2 Approval of Agreement with West Contra Costa Administrators Association (West Contra Costa Administrators Association / AB1200 Public Disclosure of Collective Bargaining Agreement with WCCAA)

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

F.3 Sexual Harassment Statement

Mr. Greer reported that the District has renewed its commitment to improve the conditions and climate while maintaining a working and learning environment free from sexual harassment. He asked the Board to join him in holding staff accountable to change the culture regarding sexual and gender based harassment. Partners including students, staff, parents and residents are called on to eliminate sexual harassment and to create a climate where this can no longer exist.

Public Comment:

None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey said he was glad this policy is coming forward as it is important for all individuals to understand the code of conduct for all people. He said this is a healthy step for District.

Mr. Enos spoke of the difficulties in schools over the last few years and learning more about becoming sensitive.

Mr. Groves commended the opportunity to reflect on creating a safe culture for all students, modeled by staff and the community. He spoke about implementing this as an academic component for students.

Mr. Greer said that the statement will be posted in English and Spanish at all schools and work locations.

President Kronenberg spoke about the importance of creating a culture of respect.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Sexual Harassment Statement. 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

None

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

None

I. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Ramsey spoke about visiting his daughter at her college campus and offered an opinion regarding a political colleague.

Mr. Enos remarked about being focused on more difficult subjects through the school year.

Ms. Merriweather wished families a nice Veterans Day.

President Kronenberg joined in wishing the audience a happy Veterans Day. She also commended Corey Mason for his award and tireless work with the El Cerrito radio station, KECG.

J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Lovonya DeJean Middle School – November 20, 2013

K. ADJOURNMENT
President Kronenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:39 P.M.

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

BH:dh