

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

**July 23, 2014**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Ramsey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Ramsey called the Public Session to order at 6:32 P.M.

**B.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Ramsey led the pledge of allegiance.

**B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures**

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

**B.3 Roll Call**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Randall Enos

**Staff Present:** Magdy Abdalla, Engineering Officer; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Executive Director Bond Finance; Linda Delgado, Coordinator Educational Services; Cliff Dorton, Electronics Technician; Otilia Espinoza, Translator; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Rhonda Haney, Director Title IX Educational Equity; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debbie Haynie, Executive Secretary; Keith Holtslander, Director Facilities & Construction; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Marcus Walton, Communications Director; 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 the following administrators:

Jessica Petrilli, Interim Principal Helms Middle School

Greg Whaling, Interim Assistant Principal Helms Middle School

Rocio Reyes, Interim Instructional Specialist Helms Middle School

Nicole Ruiz, Assistant Principal Adult Education

Melissa Filbin, Vice Principal Peres Elementary School

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

**B.5 Agenda Review and Adoption**

President Ramsey asked that items D.1 and G.1 be moved up on the agenda to follow B.6.

**MOTION: Mr. Groves moved approval of the agenda as amended. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

**B.6 Minutes: June 25, 2014; July 9, 2014**

**MOTION: Mr. Groves moved approval of the Minutes of June 25, 2014 and July 9, 2014. Ms. Merriweather seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

**D.1 Recognition of Coach Jim Ulversoy**

Mr. Greer introduced Coach Jim Ulversoy who has been named California Interscholastic Federation Water Polo Coach of the Year for 2014. Mr. Ulversoy has been coaching at Pinole Valley High School since 1980 winning three boys' and two girls' championship titles. Coach Ulversoy commended those who support him and assist in maintaining the high standards for the teams. He said that the teams have done a good job of representing the District to other teams throughout the greater Bay Area. He thanked the Board for this recognition.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

None

**G.1 Report and Request from the El Cerrito Archiving Committee to Name Portions of ECHS**

Ms. Janet Abelson, representing the El Cerrito High School Archiving Committee, told of the 65 year history of the school. She said the committee is proposing the renaming of four facilities at the school to honor worthy teachers from the past. Her fellow committee members recapped the committee criteria as well as biographical information for each individual to be honored.

Frank Milo Football Field  
Sanford (Sandy) Berman Football Press Box  
Dr. Sam Elkind Performing Arts Theater  
Hale Roach Track

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Kronenberg remarked that she thought this was a good idea as a way to celebrate excellence in teaching and individuals revered by the El Cerrito community.

Mr. Groves agreed that this would provide an outstanding legacy of achievement in the District. He suggested a subcommittee of the Board to consider the recommendations.

Ms. Merriweather said that this was important to the community and she liked the idea to commemorate the sites for students to know about these leaders.

President Ramsey recommended that Superintendent Harter make arrangements to move ahead to determine any costs. Superintendent Harter said that this will be brought back to the August 13 meeting for approval, including cost estimates.

**B.7 WCCUSD Public Comment**

Giorgio Cosentino

**C. BUSINESS ITEM**

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

**C.2 Acceptance of Donations**

**C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities**

**C.4 Contracts**

**C.5 Agreements for Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School/Agency Services**

**C.6 Routine Personnel Changes – Classified**

**C.7 Approve the following New Job Description: Coordinator, Electronic Communications**

**C.8 Approve the following New Job Description: Supervisor, Library Services**

**C.9 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**

**C.10 Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**

**C.11 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders – M&O**

**C.12 Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment Agreement between WCCUSD and Contrax Furnishings for Classroom Furniture & Related Services (Kennedy High School Science Building)**

**C.13 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contracts (CUPCAA): January 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014**

- C.14 Ratification of Staff Awarded Contract: Nystrom Elementary School Modernization Project**  
Superintendent Harter read an update to this item into the record regarding the award of contract.

**MOTION: Mr. Groves moved Approval of Consent Items C. 1 – C.14. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Ramsey voted yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

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

**D.1 Recognition of Coach Jim Ulversoy**

This item was moved to follow item B.6.

**D.2 Report on Student Demographics**

Ms. Gamba provided a report regarding student demographic projections for the next ten years.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Groves asked whether this type of data was important for budgeting. Ms. Gamba responded that this is more of a tool for planning use of facilities and trends in student population. Mr. Groves had another question related to the Local Control Funding Formula to which Ms. Gamba responded.

Ms. Merriweather asked how often this information was reviewed. Ms. Gamba responded that it is reviewed annually.

**D.3 Certificated Substitutes for 2014-2015**

Mr. Whittemore reviewed the use of substitute teachers over the past year. He spoke of the factors related to unfilled substitute assignments and the District's intent to provide dedicated substitutes for larger schools. He also reviewed the competitive pay for substitute teachers in surrounding districts.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Kronenberg said she liked the idea. She spoke about technology training for dedicated substitute teachers. Mr. Whittemore responded. Ms. Kronenberg continued with a recommendation that any substitute have access to technology training.

Ms. Merriweather thought the concept would benefit students.

Mr. Groves asked about evaluating the new approach. Mr. Whittemore responded that the process would be reviewed in the spring of 2015. Mr. Groves asked about classified substitutes. Mr. Whittemore provided information.

**D.4 New Certificated Personnel Evaluation Rubric**

Mr. Whittemore reported that the proposed evaluation process had been reviewed through the negotiation process with United Teachers of Richmond and discussions to improve the process. He reported that a partnership came together to form an evaluation subcommittee made up of teachers and principals. They began by reviewing what worked well and what did not in the current process. Mr. Whittemore shared information from evaluation processes in other districts across the country. He said the committee had the intent to build a better system with the focus on encouraging teaching and learning.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Kronenberg spoke of this being a major topic in education today in an effort to improve the professional teaching product. She applauded everyone who worked on this and felt that it is in alignment with the Strategic Plan as well as the Local Control Accountability Plan. She asked about the breakdown of teachers and principals on the committee. Mr. Whittemore responded with information about the cross section of people who participated.

Mr. Groves felt this was an outstanding process. He had questions about some of the elements. Mr. Whittemore spoke about the opportunity to add or delete when reviewed next May.

## **E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Public Employees Local One.** Business Agent Jeff Apkarian pointed out positive events for employees during the month of July including a 3% increase in the salary schedule and the LCAP agreement boosting clerical support in elementary schools. He introduced new staff member Mr. Saad Muhammad.

**Technology Subcommittee.** Ms. Kronenberg reported on the July 14 meeting where conversation was held around the Udio Project for Korematsu Middle School classrooms. She said the committee also approved the technology budget and held conversation about the progression of developing the plan. The next meeting will be held August 11.

**Facilities Subcommittee.** President Ramsey reported on the robust meeting which included approval of the technology budget, discussion regarding bond refunding, construction of the Valley View portables, and potential seismic eligibility funding, as well as the El Cerrito High football and track stadium scope of work.

**Ivy League Connection.** President Ramsey reported that the last group left on Sunday for Brown University. He thanked Don Gosney for his work with all groups this year. He said that three groups have returned from their summer programs. Ms. Kronenberg added that the University of Chicago students were visited by the Richmond High vice principal who was attending a conference in Chicago.

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

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

## **F. ACTION ITEMS**

### **F.1 45 - Day Budget Revision – 2014-15**

Ms. Gamba asked the Board to adopt the proposed revision to the 2014-15 budget with modifications as reflected by the State adopted budget. She said this includes a net increase of \$147,000 over all.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

None

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the 45-Day Budget Revision for 2014-2015. Mr. Groves seconded. Mr. Groves, Ms. Merriweather, Ms. Kronenberg, and President Ramsey voting yes, with no abstentions and Mr. Enos absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

## **G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **G.1 Report and Request from the El Cerrito Archiving Committee to Name Portions of ECHS**

This item was moved to follow item D.1.

### **G.2 Project Status Report: Pinole Valley High School Interim Campus**

Mr. Abdalla and members of the construction team provided an update on the Pinole Valley High School Interim Campus.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

President Ramsey had various questions about the project to which the team responded with information for clarification.

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

None

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

Ms. Merriweather spoke of students enjoying summer as well as looking forward to the start of the school year.

Ms. Kronenberg said she attended the technology summer camp and learned several of the programs that teachers were learning. She enjoyed watching the teachers become friendly and comfortable with computers. She said the teacher trainers were incredible and everyone enjoyed the training.

Mr. Groves said he also visited the technology camp and saw teachers embracing the technology very quickly. He spoke of this being an advantage to students. He thanked his colleagues.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about renaming Coronado Elementary School after iconic figure, Dolores Huerta. President Ramsey asked Superintendent Harter to form committee to review and bring a proposal to the Board.

Mr. Ramsey spoke of being good fiscal stewards and considering review of the Seaview and Adams properties for discussion about demolition. He said that the District will consider developing policies about closed sites. He also spoke of attending the summer school graduation ceremony.

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting in the name of former Board member Adrienne Harris.

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

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – August 13, 2014

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

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

BH:dh

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>TAG</u></b> Approved 8/13/14</p>
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