

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

**January 28, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Todd Groves called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** Liz Block, Randy Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg

**Staff Present:** Denise Cifelli, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Cliff Dorton, Electronics Technician; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Nicole Joyner, Director Data and Accountability; Leticia Oregon, Translator; Daniela Parasidis, Director Business Services; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Marcus Walton, Communications Director; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

Ms. Cuevas joined the meeting at 6:34 PM during public comment.

**II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Madeleine Jen Kin, Jonathan Wright, Sara Danielson, Tom Panas, Michael Peritz

**III. BUDGET DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPING THE 2015-16 WCCUSD BUDGET**

Superintendent Harter announced the meeting would be an open workshop for the Board and shared the purpose of the meeting reiterating the priorities the Board agreed on at their last meeting. He stated he hoped to create a shared understanding of the priorities and assumptions that go into creating the budget. He then introduced Ms. Sheri Gamba who would provide additional background and information.

Ms. Gamba provided context for budget development as it related to enrollment, staffing and educational and support programs. She also relayed information on multiyear projections, deficit spending, expenditures, and other budget details.

There was discussion among Board members and staff relative to staffing during declining enrollment. Mr. Whittemore provided additional information.

Ms. Rashidchi provided information on Common Core Standards, professional development and the District's overarching goal to become a Full Service Community Schools District to ensure students are college and career ready. She commented on additional services that were added due to LCAP.

Mr. Greer provided more detailed information on Full Service Community Schools, pilot programs and partnerships and how they fund much of the library, athletics and after school programs and activities.

Ms. Gamba continued the presentation with information relating to grants and entitlements noting those that are ongoing, and monies that are competitive and not guaranteed. She explained the breakdown of the Chevron grants and provided more detail around Special Education and Adult Education funding. She then went on to explain the breakdown of funds by classification and function giving the Board a visual look at where dollars are spent and how that leads into budget assumptions for multiyear budget planning. She concluded her presentation by sharing the assumptions the Business Services Department will use while preparing for the 2015-16 budget, concerns and next steps.

President Groves asked if technology was being considered as a replacement for textbooks. Superintendent Harter said yes and provided rationale.

Mr. Enos said he appreciated the information and felt he had a better understanding of what's ahead.

Ms. Block thanked Ms. Gamba for her thorough and clear report but also felt the Board should consider having an outside expert evaluate the proposed spending plan as a discussion item at a regular Board meeting.

Ms. Kronenberg stated the information was incredibly well presented and clear. She requested more detailed information as to how the budget is broken up in order to gain a better understanding. She would like to see a global comparison against other districts in the county.

Ms. Cuevas thanked Ms. Gamba for the presentation which she said sparked some interesting thoughts for her. She asked for clarification around addressing and supporting needs for her focus on the students. She also requested a copy of the current demographic report and asked for clarification on staffing. Ms. Gamba and Mr. Whittemore provided more detail. Ms. Cuevas had questions on the LCAP matrix to which Ms. Rashidchi responded.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

President Groves adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

BH:dc

**R. Enos**  
Approved 2/11/15