

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

**March 4, 2015**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Groves called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Groves called the Public Session to order at 6:38 P.M.

**Public Comment Prior to Recess to Closed Session**

Kanai Anderson, Josiah Zepeda, Angelina Quilici, Rito Gomez, Amina Turner, Juana Parra, Ariel Vega, Cynthia Pardinus, Quinton Taylor, Jordan Mason, Ivan Atataua, MacDaniel Maisel, PwintPhyn Nandar, Pamela Fields, Selina Jones, Mark Quilici, Toni Hall, Paola Chacon, Khyree Neal, Phyllis Qualls, Josie Vega, Jonathan Dumas, Consuelo Gomez, Uche Uwahemy, Akyah Square, Casey Owen, Jaclynn Garry, Calvin Miles, Nakia Washington

**B.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Groves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures**

President Groves offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting

**B.3 Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** Liz Block, Valerie Cuevas, Randall Enos, Todd Groves, Madeline Kronenberg

**Staff Present:** Elizabeth Carmody, Director Community Engagement; Denise Cifelli, Administrative Assistant; Linda Delgado, Charter School Liaison; Luis Freese, District Engineer; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult Schools; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Joshua Herrera, Electronics Technician; Keith Holtslander, Director Facilities & Construction; Lisa LeBlanc, Associate Superintendent M & O/Bond Program; Mary Phillips, Chief Technology Officer; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Reyna Touriel, Translator; Claudia Velez, Wilson Elementary Principal; Ken Whittemore, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources

**B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative from Gateway High School**

Mr. Kao Saephan provided a report of activities at Gateway High School.

**B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue notice of non-reelection to 16 probationary teaches pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21(b), effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices.

**MOTION: Mr. Enos moved to ratify action taken in Closed Session to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue notice of non-reelection to 16 probationary teaches pursuant to Education Code Section 44929.21(b), effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Block, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg and President Groves voted yes, Ms. Cuevas abstained, and no absences. Motion carried 3-0-1-0.**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue notices of non-reelection to 54 temporary classroom teaches pursuant to Education Code Section 44954(b), effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices.

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue notice of non-reelection to 54 temporary classroom teaches pursuant to Education Code Section 44954(b), effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue a notice reassigning 14 administrators pursuant to Education Code section 44951, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out an appropriate legal notice.

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved to ratify action taken in Closed Session to issue a notice reassigning 14 administrators pursuant to Education Code section 44951, effective at the end of the 2014-2015 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out an appropriate legal notice. Ms. Block seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption**

President Groves recommended moving item G.1 to follow item B.7. Board members also requested that Consent Items C.13, C.15 and C.17 be placed after Section E for separate discussion and action.

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**  
None

**MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved approval of the agenda as amended. Ms. Block seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**B.7 Minutes: February 11, 2015**

**Public Comment:**  
None

**Board Comment:**  
None

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of the Minutes of February 11, 2015. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**G.1 Manzanita Charter Middle School Renewal Hearing**

Superintendent Harter asked Dr. Linda Delgado to present information for the public hearing regarding the renewal petition for Manzanita Charter Middle School. Dr. Delgado introduced Executive Director Jim Trombley, School System Administrator Colleen Thomas, Parent Kay Wallace, Teacher Patty Susquilanda, and Parent Juan Reardon.

Mr. Trombley introduced Ms. Thomas who presented information regarding the parent cooperative charter petition and some of the 15 year history, as well as the mission and vision of the school. The other speakers spoke about the diverse student body and the school's progress.

**Public Comment:**  
Lucy Reardon, Nicole Williams, Monserrat Amendans, Audra Williams, Elizabeth Burdine, Brandon Cunningham, Lisa Maynard, Erick Dominguez, Jose Martinez, Laila Salaam, Mike Long, Carmen Ortiz, Dennis Fitzgerald

**Board Comment:**  
Mr. Enos complimented the Manzanita family on their accomplishments and parent support.

Ms. Block thanked the Manzanita staff for the presentation. She continued with a question about their move to the Hilltop location and whether there was a change in makeup of the student population as a result. Mr. Trombley responded with background about the previous location and the inappropriateness of the site for middle school students. He said the move was 100% supported by the cooperative parents' group as a site fitting the needs of the school.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke of how impressed she was by the enthusiasm of students, parents and staff. She spoke about hearing from the group and getting a sense of their school. She looked forward to staff's report and the Board's action at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Ms. Cuevas asked Ms. Wallace, as a parent, what it meant to have Manzanita School as an option for her children. Ms. Wallace spoke about the anxiety of approaching junior high school. She said the parent led community and diversity of the school were important values for their family.

President Groves asked about specific issues of concern. Mr. Trombley addressed concerns regarding declining math scores, corrective action taken, and growth in achievement. President Groves asked whether parents were compelled to complete service work on campus. Mr. Trombley said the parent cooperative model asks for volunteers but there is no requirement to volunteer any service to the school. President Groves concluded by asking whether the school is taking active steps to be make the school more represented of the District's population. Mr. Trombley answered affirmatively with information about the percentage of ethnic diversity.

Ms. Block asked what assessments the school was using. Mr. Trombley spoke about the quarterly assessments from NWEA Assessments. He said going forward, they are looking for better models in order to maximize learning opportunities.

Ms. Cuevas had a questions regarding student growth and demonstrating growth. Mr. Trombley spoke about the teaching staff's efforts to maximize gains. He concluded by speaking about whole student development.

Superintendent Harter said that staff would return with a recommendation on April 1, 2015.

A brief recess was taken at 7:40 PM.

President called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

#### **B.8 WCCUSD Public Comment**

David Ferrise, Liz Ferrise, Josh Younger, Rebecca Ferrise

Board members requested staff to look into the concerns of the family. Superintendent Harter committed to working with the family and school to see that the young man returns to school safely.

#### **D.1 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification Recognition**

Ms. Rashidchi introduced Wilson Elementary Principal Claudia Velez who spoke about the program. She explained that the program is the gold standard for teachers with nationally recognized certification. Higher standards mean better learning for students and advancing the quality of teaching and learning by maintaining high and rigorous standards for accomplished teachers, providing a national system of certification, advocating for reforms in American education, and capitalizing on the expertise of the National Board Certified Teachers. She said that within the District are a number of Board Certified Teachers who have organized a support program for teacher candidates in the coming school year.

Ms. Velez recognized the newly Certified National Board Teachers Maria Aguila and Pat Simon.

#### **Public Comment:**

None

#### **Board Comment:**

Board members individually offered congratulations and posed for photographs with the group.

**MOTION: President Groves requested the Board consider moving item F.1 up on the agenda. Ms. Kronenberg moved approval of reordering the agenda to take item F.1 next. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

#### **F.1 Richmond College Preparatory (RCP) School Renewal Hearing**

Dr. Linda Delgado provided information regarding the process and staff recommendation to renew the charter for Richmond College Preparatory School.

**Public Comment:**

Tana Monteiro

**Board Comment:**

Chief Executive Officer Peppina Chang and RCP Chairperson David Rosenthal were present to address questions of the Board.

Ms. Block asked about benchmark assessments being used. Principal Allie Welch spoke of using the Illuminate program and Smarter Balance. Ms. Block also asked about teacher collaboration to which Ms. Welch responded with detail.

Ms. Cuevas asked Ms. Welch about recognizing growth and using benchmarks for planning instruction. Ms. Welch spoke about developmental reading assessment, annual goal setting and conferences with students. She detailed teacher reviewing assessment results with follow up to celebrate or provide further intervention.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke of how impressed she was when visiting the school. She congratulated the school and said she looked forward to approving the charter renewal.

Ms. Cuevas asked staff about any impact on enrollment with the approval of the charter renewal. Ms. Gamba said that ongoing charter schools do not have the same impact as a new charter school would. She spoke of the cooperative relationship and said that she did not anticipate any major impact either positive or negative because the school is an ongoing entity.

Ms. Gamba clarified state requirements regarding declining enrollment over a one year period as it may pertain to charter school enrollment.

**MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved approval of the Richmond College Preparatory (RCP) School Charter Renewal. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.**

**C. BUSINESS ITEM**

**C.1 Acceptance of Donations**

**C.2 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities**

**C.3 Contracts**

**C.4 Notice of Completions: Bid 1151201-05 Dover Elementary School Parking Improvements & Site Work, Bid 1461206-10 Ohlone Elementary School Playground & Parking Lot Completion Phase 4**

**C.5 Resolution No. 60-1415: Directing Preparation of Annual Engineer's Report - MRAD**

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

**C.7 Uniform Complaint Procedures - Board Policy 1312.3 – Community Relations**

**C.8 Secondary Extended Learning Online Curriculum Grades 6 -12**

**C.9 Resolution No. 61-1415: Arts in Education Month – March 2015**

**C.10 Resolution No. 62-1415: Women's History Month – March 2015**

**C.11 Resolution No. 65-1415: California Adult Education Week – March 24-27, 2015**

**C.12 Oregon Shakespeare Festival**

Mr. Greer read a revision to this item into the record to add DeAnza High School Advanced Theatre class traveling March 13 – 15, 2015.

**C.13 Upgrade infrastructure at Kennedy HS, Crespi MS and Richmond HS**

This item moved to follow item E.3.

**C.14 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts**

**C.15 Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**

This item moved to follow item E.3.

**C.16 Approval of Negotiated Change Orders – M&O**

**C.17 Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding with City of El Cerrito to complete renovation project of the athletic field located at Castro Park**

This item moved to follow item E.3.

**C.18 Approval of Board Member Travel**

**C.19 Resolution No. 57-1415: In Support of the Implementation of the Common Core State Standards**  
**C.20 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) Appointment: Antonio Medrano**

**MOTION:** Ms. Block moved Approval of Consent Items C. 1 – C.12, C.14, C.16 and C. 18-C.20. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.

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

**D.1 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification Recognition**

This item was moved to follow item B.8.

**D.2 Update on District After School Programs**

Mr. Greer introduced Katharine Sullivan, Coordinator of After School Programs, who reported on services provided to students in the District as well as key findings from the 2013-2014 evaluation report.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Kronenberg remarked on the dramatic improvement in enrollment and asked what attributed to the increase. Ms. Sullivan spoke about offering high quality and meaningful programs to offer students and families. She said assessment tools and monthly evaluations used. She said that programs have moved toward a skill building model, building toward project goals.

Ms. Block asked about teacher communication in order to support and stay knowledgeable about curriculum. Ms. Sullivan provided details.

Ms. Cuevas asked about a best practice that has contributed to success. Ms. Sullivan spoke about improved attendance and quality standard to observe and measure the daily warm welcome to students, staff acknowledging and remarking about students as individuals.

Ms. Kronenberg asked about city recreation after school programs. Ms. Sullivan provided information about the cooperation with city recreation and YMCA fee for service programs.

President Groves asked about professional development regarding academic changes offered to after school tutors. Ms. Sullivan provided information about graduate tutors and instructional aides who work during the school day, as well as in after school programs, and their participation in school staff professional development.

**D.3 Report on the Full Service Community Schools**

Mr. Greer introduced Ms. Elizabeth Carmody, Director of Community Engagement, who provided an update on the Full Service Community Schools initiative. She introduced Youth Development Coordinator Tashaka Merriweather, and Teodora Idefonzo-Olmo, Community Services Coordinator for the City of San Pablo. They provided information regarding accomplishments and outcomes for the next few years.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Kronenberg asked about redesigning the partnership agreement. Ms. Carmody spoke of the challenges and realignment for community partners and staff. She also spoke about alignment with Full Service Community Schools as well as LCAP. She said recommendations have been received and a working draft is being developed. Discussion continued identifying service providers and providing a link on the District website to the West County Full Service Community Schools organization.

Ms. Block spoke about the practical level on a school campus and how student services are provided. She said that while she thought the initiative is wonderful she wondered how the District can provide everything. Ms. Carmody responded with information about the relatively new initiative across the country. Each school site staff identify needs

and the District matches support as appropriate to those sites. Ms. Block said she was glad that the District is supporting this because she has seen how the services are needed by students.

Mr. Enos asked how the program was funded. Mr. Greer said that Local Control Accountability Funds, District general funds, as well as financial support from community partners estimates to approximately \$10 per child.

Ms. Cuevas asked how the District evaluates the work leading to higher learning outcomes. Ms. Carmody spoke of indicators to assess achievement and attendance using LCAP indicators for baseline measures. Mr. Greer added that the Healthy Kids survey data reviewed by the School and Climate Safety Committee, as well as WestEd's review of middle school suspension rates are sample indicators.

President Groves spoke about the importance to support children with real needs they grow. He commended staff and said he thought the District could excel and lead outcomes.

## **E. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS**

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

**Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.** Chairperson Ivette Ricco spoke about Ms. LeBlanc's recent report on framing next steps presenting a picture of the current state of the bond program. The report addressed the prioritization, manage and budget for the remaining \$592 Million in bond funds. Ms. Ricco applauded Ms. LeBlanc and her team for setting stringent standards. As chairperson, she offered her support, as well as that of the committee to work cooperatively with Ms. LeBlanc and staff.

**Academic Subcommittee.** Ms. Rashidchi reported that the next meeting will be March 10, in the DeAnza media center. The meeting will be a collaboration of the Common Core working group presenting information regarding progress monitoring and tools for supplemental materials processes.

**College and Career Readiness.** Mr. Greer thanked Mr. Whittemore and Human Resources staff for the support in providing substitute teachers for the 45-50 teachers and principals who attended a Pathways Conference to Sacramento. Mr. Greer also spoke about the recent WASC visit to Richmond High. He commended the Richmond High Boys Soccer team for their Division 2 Championship. He also announced that El Cerrito soccer team defeated Los Lomas and will play in section finals over the weekend.

**Community Budget Advisory Committee.** Ms. Gamba said the next meeting will be held March 26 at the Alvarado Adult School campus. She invited the public to attend.

**Facilities Subcommittee.** Ms. Kronenberg reported on the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting were the draft financial report, the draft financial audit, and Ms. LeBlanc's report on framing next steps were reviewed. She said the next meeting will be held March 17, 2015.

**Ivy League Connection.** Ms. Kronenberg reported that the committee is selecting students for the upcoming summer programs.

**Safety and School Climate Committee.** Mr. Enos reported that the group met with site leaders to work on individual cases. The next meeting will be held at North Campus. Mr. Greer welcomed Ms. Cuevas to the committee.

**Technology Subcommittee.** Ms. Phillips reported on discussion at the recent meeting regarding installation of a 10 gig pipe for every site by July 2015. The wireless installation has been completed for Kennedy, Coronado and Dover Schools with Helms installation underway. She also said that Ed Services provided updates and Building Blocks for Kids representatives spoke about their partnership to connect students to the internet. The next meeting will be held April 13, 2015.

**Youth Commission.** President Groves reported that commissioners were preparing for an upcoming presentation to the Board, they also want to be active participates in carry the youth voice to the LCAP Committee. Ms. Cuevas spoke about being new to the committee as well as students attending We Day events.

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

Superintendent Harter provided a report of activities in the District.

**E.3 In Memory of Members of the School Community**

Superintendent Harter recognized the contributions of members of the community who have passed away. President Groves asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence.

**C.13 Upgrade Infrastructure at Kennedy HS, Crespi MS and Richmond HS**

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Cuevas had questions regarding the infrastructure upgrades in support of technology for the schools mentioned. Ms. Phillips explained the process of evaluating the bond reconstructed schools to make sure that technology installation is the latest technology to prevent the need to go back to install additional wiring. Ms. Phillips reported that these three schools are older sites needing remediation. The technology staff work closely with facilities staff to address the continued changes with technology. She estimated the kind of infrastructure wiring to sustain new devices for the next 15-20 years.

**MOTION: Ms. Cuevas moved Approval of Consent Item C. 13 Upgrade Infrastructure at Kennedy HS, Crespi MS and Richmond HS. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**C.15 Approval of Negotiated Change Orders**

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Block asked for additional information regarding the Ohlone change orders. Ms. LeBlanc provided information regarding mechanical screens that were deleted from the original project. Once clarification was received regarding the details and work, they were added back into the project as a change order. Ms. Block expressed concern regarding the number of change orders for the project. Ms. LeBlanc provided information regarding the delivery method used by the District and the possibility of changes throughout a project.

**MOTION: Ms. Block moved Approval of Consent Item C. 15 Approval of Negotiated Change Orders. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**C.17 Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding with City of El Cerrito to Complete Renovation Project of the Athletic Field Located at Castro Park**

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

Ms. Block asked about the original ratification of the agreement as of October 2014 and wondered why it was coming before the Board now. Superintendent Harter explained the property is owned by the District while the City of El Cerrito maintains the park, with the District using it occasionally. The construction of Korematsu Middle School required installation of utilities through the park area. The rebuilding of the field would have been financed through bond funds but the City volunteered to take over the project as part of their continued use and maintenance. He said it was an oversight not to bring this for Board approval in November.

**MOTION: Ms. Kronenberg moved Approval of Consent Item C. 17 Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding with City of El Cerrito to Complete Renovation Project of the Athletic Field Located at Castro Park. Ms. Block seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**F. ACTION ITEMS**

**F.1 Richmond College Preparatory (RCP) School Renewal Hearing**

This item was moved to follow item D.1 earlier on the agenda.

**F.2 2015 CSBA Delegate Assembly Election**

Superintendent Harter provided information about voting for delegates for the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly for Subregion 7-A which is Contra Costa County. He detailed the terms of office and the request for a motion to vote for the three vacancies.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Comment:**

President Groves asked the Board to discuss forwarding the names of Ms. Cuevas and Ms. Kronenberg and possibility a third candidate.

**MOTION: Ms. Block moved approval of voting for Ms. Cuevas and Ms. Kronenberg for the 2015 CSBA Delegate Assembly Ballot. Mr. Enos seconded. Ms. Block, Ms. Cuevas, Mr. Enos, Ms. Kronenberg, Student Representative Kao Saephan (advisory vote only), and President Groves voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0-0.**

**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**G.1 Manzanita Charter Middle School Renewal Hearing**

This item was moved to follow item B.7.

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

None

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

President Groves spoke about a request from the Richmond City Council to hold a joint meeting regarding facilities and budgeting. He said this would be an opportunity for the Board to highlight items of interest regarding the relationship between the two entities. He expressed interest in discussing student residency and attending Richmond schools. Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the importance of the Richmond Promise initiative. Ms. Cuevas also added potential partnerships with education committees as a topic of discussion.

Ms. Kronenberg asked Board members to think about also holding a joint meeting with community college trustees. She spoke about Arts Education month and the arts calendar detailing performing arts events on the District website. She reported on visiting the Pinole City Council and their recognition of the Pinole Valley Girls Varsity Soccer Team for their success this season. She also highlighted the Battle of the Books event at DeAnza. She concluded with information about upcoming events; the Youth Empowerment Symposium in April, the African American Achievement Celebration in May, and the Efficacy Institute Training for African American Parents also in April.

Ms. Block spoke about attending a Life Skills for Peace class lead by local law enforcement officers. She also shared that she attended a bond conference and heard discussion about evaluation tools for setting criteria for facilities projects. Finally she asked about an evaluation of the ROTC program in the spring to learn more about the program.

Mr. Enos spoke about Read Across America and reading to a third grade class at Washington Elementary.

Ms. Cuevas said she read *Dog Days of School* to Bayview Elementary students as a Read Across America event. She offered congratulations of the Richmond High Boys Soccer team for their recent championship and their success both on the field and in the classroom. She related having a pleasant visit to El Cerrito High with Security Officer Mr. Otheree Christian. Ms. Cuevas spoke about Ms. MontesNations as the District's new Coordinator for Disaster Preparedness. She concluded by commending Ms. LeBlanc's efforts to move the construction program forward.



Student Representative Kao Saephan thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in the meeting. He said he thought this gave him insight about working in politics.

President Groves spoke about attending the California Association of the Gifted conference recently and developments from the State of California to offer rich learning opportunities. He also spoke about the Hechinger Report's recent article regarding Universal Design for Learning and a middle school reading program. He mentioned Disability Awareness Month and the effort to mitigate the effect of disability in the classroom while tending to the personal needs of each learner. President Groves concluded with remarks about the Battle of the Books, led by District librarians who put together a program about middle school novels. Juan Crespi Middle School students prepared the winning entry regarding the book *Wonder*.

**J. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
Lovonya DeJean Middle School – March 18, 2015

**K. ADJOURNMENT**  
President Groves adjourned the meeting at 10:07 PM.

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

BH:dh

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|--------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b><u>R. Enos</u></b><br/>Approved 4/1/15</p> |
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