

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

Karen Hemphill, President
Beatriz Leyva-Cutler, Vice President
John T. Selawsky, Director /Clerk
Shirley Issel, Director
Nancy Riddle, Director
Valeria Gonzalez, Student Director

Administration: Superintendent William Huyett, Secretary
Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent
Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
Lisa van Thillo, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

President Hemphill convened the regular meeting at 7:41 pm

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board considered three student expulsions:

Student Case No. 0910-14-081797

Issel/Riddle and approved unanimously to uphold stipulated, suspended expulsion through June 2010

Student Case No. 0809-45-100496

Selawsky/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously to expunge record of suspended expulsion for student

The Board discussed a classified employee and on motion by **Selawsky/Hemphill** and approved on vote of 3-2 to suspend employee for three days. Directors Issel and Riddle voted No

The Board returned to Closed Session at the conclusion of the regular meeting and discussed Superintendent's Evaluation and other personnel matters, with no action taken.

The Board approved the regular meeting of January 20, 2010
President Hemphill pulled Item 4.4-C for clarification and item 3.2-A was
moved to the Consent Calendar

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously as revised

RECOGNITION

Principal Victor Diaz was recognized by the Redford Center for the impact he has made on the lives of Berkeley students . Victor is one of the first two first honorees by the Redford Center, They were will be an event on February 4 to pay tribute to two bay area activists.

Teaching and Learning

Rita Kimball, Principal of Washington Elementary and staff discussed their Response to Intervention strategies.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Members of the Berkeley High football team showed up at the School Board meeting to applaud their coach, Alonzo Carter, who announced his resignation last week.

Carter coached the Yellow Jackets for three seasons—from 2007 to 2009—and took them to the ACCAL league championship in each of the last three years.

Teachers Marge Engel, Laura Grossman, Jane Barras, Valerie Gutworth, Gary Green and other teachers on the benefits Berkeley Adult School offers the community

Peggy Scott, member of BHS SGC, commented on the upcoming BHS Plan being presented to the Board on February 3.

UNION REPORTS

BFT President Cathy Campbell on the role the adult school plays in our community.

Board Members' Reports

BHS had a blood drive today and also a fundraiser for Haiti. This is Dead Week in preparation for finals next week.

Director Issel thanked Berkeley Adult School teachers who spoke during public testimony for their passion and commitment to the community.

H1N1 free clinic at Lifelong Medical this Saturday from 10-1 and 1-4pm. Everyone is welcome.

Superintendent's Report

He spoke about expended course offerings at BHS re science programs and has developed a proposal that will be part of the BHS Redesign plan that will be presented on February 3. The proposal is outlined below:

Currently, the school receives six (6.0) additional FTE from BSEP Class Size Reduction funds to be used for expanded course offerings. These additional teachers have enabled the school to offer more music classes (1.0 FTE) and to extend science classes (5.0 FTE) from five meetings a week to six meetings for college prep classes, and seven meetings a week for advanced placement and international baccalaureate classes. These extensions of the regular classes are used to conduct science labs in addition to what occurs during the regular day.

On December 2, 2009, the School Governance Council supported a recommendation from the leadership team to no longer use the 5.0 teachers for science but to allow all disciplines and schools to apply for staffing to support students who were struggling. This was given the name of "Equity Grants." This proposal has raised concerns about the support for students in science and the amount of time required to offer a quality college prep and AP/IB program in science.

There is concern that the current practice does not benefit all students. There is evidence that attendance is poor in the before/after school labs, and that achievement is negatively affected for students who cannot or do not attend.

There is a concern that if AP/IB science classes lose the extra time students will not be taught the full curriculum in order to pass the AP and IB tests. For Advanced Placement, the College Board recommends additional time beyond what is allowed for traditional science classes.'

This new proposal from the administration and science teacher leaders is as follows:

- 1. Continue to provide extra time as currently exists for AP and IB Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Discontinue the extra time for AP Environmental Science as the two semester program provides the amount of seat time required by the College Board. I will be recommending 1.0 FTE from BSEP program support for this purpose.*

2. *Begin an enhanced science option in College Prep Biology, Chemistry and Physics for any student who requests it. This will be a once a week before or after school lab that will enhance a student's college preparatory program. Each student will get credit for this course. Approximately, 1.0 additional FTE from BSEP program support will be required for this program. The enhanced science option will draw students from all college preparatory classes and will not track existing classes offered during the regular school day.*

3. *I will recommend that the school be allocated another 4.0 FTE for "Expanded Course Offerings" the use of which will be determined by the high school.*

He also remarked that The Policy Committee met last night with parents from PTA about high school governance.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler appointed Nicole Bolster-Ott to the Citizens Construction Advisory Committee.

APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR

Riddle/Selawsky and approved as revised

PULLED ITEM

4.4-C Contract extension with American Logistics

Hemphill/Riddle and approved unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

3.1-A – New Course at BHS – Expository Reading and Writing

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

5.1-A – Solar Power Grant at RP

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1-I – Williams Case Settlement Quarterly Report

3.2-I – Data Presentation on BHS Attendance, Discipline and GPA

3.3-I – Free and Reduced Lunch Report

4.1-I – Governor's Update

All reports received for information

President Hemphill commented on Race to the Top funding. She received a number of inquiries from community members about our decision not to apply for funding, and wants to clarify the District's position. Applying

for these funds would require the District to enter into a MOU with the State, and agree to comply with a plan that has not yet been written and with unknown terms. Additionally, we could not extricate ourselves from the plan once we agreed to its terms. President Hemphill remarked that perhaps there will be another round of money available along with a plan that has clearly defined terms.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Approve Minutes of 12-16-09

Approve Minutes of 1-13-10

Riddle/Selawsky and approved as revised

**President HEMPHILL adjourned the meeting to Closed Session
At 10:20pm**

John T. Selawsky, Clerk
Board of Education

