

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, February 24, 2010
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 6:00pm

Members Present:

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

Administration: Valeria Gonzalez, Student Director
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 called the meeting to order at 7:44 pm

Director Issel has an excused absence

Report Closed Session Actions

The Board discussed personnel matters and negotiations with no action taken.

The Board also renewed the contracts of the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services and Director of Fiscal Services. There was no increased compensation; their contracts were extended through June 2012

Selawsky/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously on vote of 4-0

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Selawsky recused on Item 4.5-C and pulled Item 5.1-C for comment

Riddle/Selawsky and approved on vote of 4-0

Teaching and Learning

Kristin Collins, Principal of Berkeley Arts Magnet, on Best and Positive Behavior Support

Recognition

Washington Elementary for Title I Academic Achievement Award

Public Testimony

- Tom Kelly and John Dorsey representing Facilities Committee spoke in support of the facilities bond
- Judy Appel from Our Family Coalition discussed the Welcoming Schools Guide
- Lori Snowden from the Audit Committee shared a few findings of the general audit. The Audit was unqualified with one finding that concerns student body funds and the proper completion of revenue potential forms. The District has had a balanced budget for the fourth year in a row and has been certified positive for the first and second interim. The District has also curtailed deficit spending pattern, and eliminated its negative fund balance in the self insurance fund

Union Report

Cathy Campbell of BFT rallied everyone to join the unions for the Statewide Day of Action on March 4.

Paula Phillips from BCCE talked about gloves that were handed out to her members. According to Ms. Phillips, these gloves are said to have cancer causing chemicals. She requested that her members receive gloves that pose no health risk.

Information Item

Item 3.1-I – Welcoming Schools Curriculum

There was a presentation by Principals Hodges, Chinn, Levenson and Wilson. The Welcoming Schools Guide is a comprehensive resource that facilitates establishing a fully inclusive, respectful, and supportive elementary school environment for all students and their families.

Board Members' Reports

Director Selawsky announced a free family event on Saturday, February 27 from 12-4 at Freight and Salvage on Addison Street.

Director Riddle discussed her attendance at a recent BSEP meeting where the discussion centered on defining expanded course offerings and clarifying the priority order in the measure of expanded course offerings and school counseling services.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler announced that there will be film shown on race at Longfellow school tomorrow.

President Hemphill expressed her pleasure about Washington Elementary's recent Title I award. Washington, along with Malcolm X has API scores over 800 and has made significant progress in closing the achievement gaps. She also noted that the 2020 recommendations are being finalized and a draft will be ready a week from Friday. The recommendations will go to the City and the Board in March.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Huyett talked about a recent interest based bargaining training he attended along with BFT. He thinks this is a strategy the District can employ to take problem solving to the next level.

He also discussed the work the group has been doing with mission, vision and goals. There will be a Board study session on March 3.

The 2020 plan will come to the Board on March 10 along with budget recommendations. He asked the student director to recommend a sophomore or junior who might be interested in serving on the Budget Advisory Committee.

Approve Consent Calendar

Director Selawsky recused on Item 4.5-C and pulled Item 5.1-C for comment

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

Item 5.1-C – Approval to Hire Commercial Real Estate Firm

Director Selawsky advised that the Board is approving the hire of a real estate firm to assist in the sale of Hillside property.

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

9:06 pm

Open Public Hearing on Item 2.1-A – Local 21, IFPTE

9:07 pm – **Close Public Hearing**

Local 21 has requested that bargaining commence to reopen the contract for the purpose of negotiating Payment of Annual Step Increases and Retirement.

Item 1.1-A – CSBA Delegate Assembly Election Ballots

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously to nominate candidates Estes, Friesen, Granger and McMahon to CSBA’s Delegate Assembly

Item 2.1-I – Sunshine of Joint Proposal for BFT/District

Assistant Superintendent Van Thillo explained that BFT jointly proposes rolling the contract for one more year

Item 5.1-I – Superintendent’s Facilities Committee

The Superintendent’s Facilities Committee presented their report that recommended future facility needs. The consensus was that (1) proceed with a Proposition 39 Bond in November 2010 (2) to proceed with a renewal of the Maintenance Special Tax and (3) to proceed with projects that require a bond of \$205.8 million

Item 5.2-I – Citizens Construction Committee

This report discusses considerations for a future bond measure, different types of bonds and reviews recent major capital projects

5.1-A - Review of Facilities Financing Options and Approval to Hire a Public Opinion Surveyor

This document addresses the possibility of placing measures before the public in November 2010. It also contains information regarding financing and a recommendation to hire a public opinion surveyor.

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

4.1-A – Audit Report

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

5.3-I - Facilities Plan Update

Received for information

5.4-I - Information about Potential Surplus Sites

Received for information

5.5-I - Maintenance and BB Second Quarter FY 2010 Report

Received for information

President HEMPHILL adjourned the meeting at 10:44 pm

John T. Selawsky, Clerk
Board of Education

