

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minutes, Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 2010
Berkeley Unified School District
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley CA 94704

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Roll Call 6:30pm

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 called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm

Report Closed Session Actions

Release of temporary certificated employee
Issel/Riddle and approved unanimously

Approval of three stipulated settlements
Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 2.2-C held over to a future agenda
Item 5.4-C pulled for comment
Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

Recognition

The Board honored the Writer Coach Connection for their ten years in the District. The Writer Coach Connection pairs well-trained volunteers with middle and high school students to develop and refine their English writing assignments. Over 200 volunteers, many of them professional writers, are spread throughout our schools nearly every day of the week.

Teaching and Learning

Maria Porter and Paul Perry presented a comprehensive report on ULSS, an interagency collaboration to provide a continuum of supports and services in BUSD's elementary and middle schools to address barriers to learning.

Public Testimony

Several parents showed up to talk about teacher retention at Thousand Oaks elementary school. One speaker commented on school zone changes.

Committee Reports

Julie Holcomb and Nancy Hoeffler from the BSEP Planning and Oversight Committee discussed class size data and expanded course offerings.

Isaiah Roter of the Audit Committee expanded on Item 4.7-C, an agenda item recommendation to select an independent auditor for the district.

8:30 Timed Item

Item 3.1-A – Proposed Charter School

Open Public Hearing at 8:39

Riddle/Leyva-Cutler and approved unanimously to open hearing

Eleven members of the community commented about the proposed charter school either opposing or supporting approval of the Petition.

Superintendent Huyett advised that a recommendation will be brought to the Board within 60 days from the time it was received.

9:21 PM – Close Public Hearing

Board Member Reports

Director Riddle announced that the Alameda County School Board Association will have a guest speaker tomorrow night on the topic of charter schools.

Vice President Leyva-Cutler encouraged everyone to attend the rally in Sacramento on May 15 to support public education. She congratulated the *BHS Jacket* for its Golden Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, one of ten awards handed out to high school websites throughout the country.

President Hemphill requested that we adjourn tonight's meeting in memory of Kyle Strang and Prentice Gray. Kyle was a junior in CAS, and Prentice graduated from BHS in 2009. The students were killed in a car accident on March 31.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent briefly remarked about the work the Board Policy Subcommittee is doing around the SGC. There is an upcoming meeting on April 20 and they hope to have it ready for the April 28 agenda.

There will be a study session on May 5 to further discuss the ongoing vision, mission and goals work.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

PULLED ITEM

Item 5.4-C – BHS Stadium Project

President Hemphill assured the public that, contrary to rumors, the district is not building a stadium on Derby Street. Apparently, flyers have been circulating with this incorrect information.

INFORMATION ITEM

Item 3.2-I – BHS Principal Selection

Student Director Gonzalez was asked to submit the name of two BHS students, preferably sophomores or juniors who would be interested in sitting on the interview panel.

President Hemphill suggested that the panel should have two parents from the SGC.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 3.2-A – Phase 1 – 2020 Plan

Issel/Selawsky and approved unanimously to accept Phase 1 of the plan as submitted

Motion to Extend Meeting past 11:00 pm

Selawsky/Issel and approved unanimously

Item 1.1-A – Class Size Report

Superintendent Huyett outlined his recommendations. He is asking that the Board adopt the Class Size report which recommends expanded course offerings and counseling in middle schools. Program support is not included in this recommendation because the Budget Advisory Committee is still working on that component.

The report recommends that eight teachers at 6.4 FTE at the high school, and 1.6 FTE at the middle schools. For the middle schools, this is twice what it was last year in order to establish an AVID program at the sites. The AVID program is a successful remedial program that encourages

families and students who have not gone to college to get the support they need in order to pursue a college education.

At Berkeley High School, this report offers a compromise solution for the science course offerings as well as other courses. It provides continued expanded course offering support for all AP science classes, including environmental science and also supplemental science coursework for any students who wish to be involved.

If more staffing is needed, Superintendent Huyett will go back and adjust staffing – within the 6.4 FTE allocation. He will know when he returns with the program support piece.

The breakdown of the 6.4 FTE is as follows:

2.4 - science support

1.0 - existing classes in music and publications

3.0 – what used to be called equity grants (referred to as courses to support student learning)

Director Riddle requested that the Board be kept abreast about the proposed courses for the 3.0 FTE. If new courses are proposed, they first require Board approval.

Riddle/Selawsky and approved unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 5.2-I – Proposed Bond Allocations

Item 2.1-I – Sunshine/BFT

Item 5.1-I – Facilities Construction Financial Update

All reports received as information

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes of:

February 24, 2010

March 3, 2010

March 10, 2010

March 24, 2010

Selawsky/Riddle and approved unanimously

Board of Education Brown Act Committee Appointment:

Director Issel appointed David Shiver to the Facilities and Maintenance Committee as a Board Appointee

President HEMPHILL adjourned the meeting at 11:56 pm in memory of Kyle Strang and Prentice Gray.

John T. Selawsky, Clerk
Board of Education

