West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education

B. **OPENING PROCEDURES**

- **B.1**
- Pledge of Allegiance Welcome and Meeting Procedures **B.2**

*CI C.3 Acceptance of Donations

Comment:

The District has received donations as summarized dated April 22, 2009. The estimated values for any non-cash donations are those provided by the donor. Staff recommends acceptance of these donations.

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

Fiscal Impact: As noted per donations summary

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.10 Employment of Retired Administrator for 2008-2009

Comment:

A waiver is required for the following retired administrator to supply emergency services and/or substitute to the district.

Richard Avalos – Assistant Principal

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.11 Approval of Sabbatical Leave Requests for 2009-2010

Comment:

The District and UTR have a negotiated agreement for the district to provide 10 Sabbatical Leaves each year. The leaves can be taken for purposes of formal study, travel, or independent study. Teachers on leave will receive 50% of their annual salary and 100% health and welfare coverage. Each request for leave is set forth below.

Susan Revier

Kensington Elementary School, 3rd grade Purpose of Sabbatical: Travel, One Year

The objectives of the proposed travel are as follows:

To improve her ability to teach expressive arts to children. She plans to visit elementary schools in New Mexico and in the four corner regions of the southwest to learn about programs that focus on Native American art traditions. Some of the reservations she plan to observe are the Mescalero Apache, Alamo Navajo and Zuni Pueblo reservations all located in New Mexico. She possesses an MA in Transformative Arts. The training will allow her to design, work and play with children using a variety of art materials and techniques that encourage reflection and problem solving bringing enjoyment to students, as well as using her findings and observations in writing curriculum for grades K-12.

Emilie Sederholm-Wood Ohlone Elementary, Kindergarten Purpose of Sabbatical: Travel, One Year

The objectives of the proposed travel are as follows:

To visit different states and schools and observe how different schools and teachers are handling the issue of differentiated instruction, particularly in the area of reading. Her main interest is to visit kindergarten to see how teachers are preparing kindergarteners for first grade as well as what they are doing to meet the needs of their different learners, what resources they have available to them to address

the different needs of their students, and how they take into account such issues as class size, culture, and the socio-economic status of the students and their families. She also plans to observe the Head Start and the pre-school program on how their classes are meeting the needs of young learners and how they are preparing their four and five year olds for school.

Christine Riedell

Lupine Hills Elementary, Kindergarten Purpose of Sabbatical: Travel, One Semester

The objectives of the proposed travel are as follows:

To continue her photographic project that began in 2000, which is the documentation of the 17th century gardens of Andre Le Notre in and around Paris, France. She will be meeting with gallery managers, publishers and museum curators in Europe and will be exhibiting and publishing her photographs.

Diana Ortega

Downer Elementary School, 2nd grade APL

Purpose of Sabbatical: Study/Travel, One Semester

The objectives of the proposed travel/study are as follows:

In the summer she will study and take an internship in Cuernavaca, Mexico. To gain an understanding of Mexican culture, the pedagogical procedures used to teach elementary level Spanish and conduct a cross-cultural exchange with Mexican students once her internship is complete.

She will study at CSU Hayward extension and take 8 graduate semester units of college. The courses taken will be related to teaching English Language Learners (ELL's).

Phyllis Buford

Richmond High School, Special Education Teacher Purpose of Sabbatical: Formal Study, One Year

The purpose of the Sabbatical is to take 8 graduate semester units at Sonoma State University.

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

<u>Fiscal Impact:</u> \$191,617.10 – including salary and health benefits

*CI C.12 Resolution No. 81-0809: National "Day of the School Nurse"

Comment:

We wish to recognize all the school nurses who give their energy, their intellect, their commitment and their love to the students of West Contra Costa Unified School District with a resolution proclaiming May 6, 2009 as the "Day of the School Nurse."

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.13 Ratification and Approval of Engineering Services Contracts

Comment:

Contracts have been initiated by staff using previously qualified engineering, architectural, or landscape architectural firms to assist in completion of the referenced projects. Many of the firms are already under contract and the staff-initiated work may be an extension of the firm's existing contract with the District. Public contracting laws have been followed in initially qualifying and selecting these professionals.

Recommendation: Ratify and approve contracts

Fiscal Impact: Total for this action: \$264,950. Funding sources as noted.

*CI C.14 Ratification and Approval of Negotiated Change Orders

Comment:

Staff is seeking ratification of Change Orders on the following current District construction projects:

WCCUSD Board of Education Meeting Agenda – April 22, 2009 budget forward at a future meeting of the Board and after review with the Board's Facilities Subcommittee.

Recommendation: Award contract to lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

Fiscal Impact: \$21,475,000. Funded from the Measure J Bond

*CI C.18 Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee Member Appointments

Comment:

On April 14, 2009, the City of Hercules City Council approved the appointments of Joe Eddy McDonald and Donald Kuehne (alternate) to the District's Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

Recommendation: Recommend approval of appointments to the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.19 Williams Lawsuit Complaints Quarterly Report

Comment:

The Williams Lawsuit requires that a quarterly report be brought before the Board of Education reflecting the number of complaints filed with any school in the district during a particular quarter. This report reflects the time period from January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009.

Recommendation: For Approval

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.20 R/P ETEMC t0.370.08 Tm()Tj2 72 356.28 Tm[Fi3.8356.hit Com)-5(N28 of

Fiscal Impact: None

*CI C.22 Resolution No. 82-0809: SB 810 - California Universal Healthcare Act

Comment:

West Contra Costa Unified School District strongly supports SB 810, the California Universal Healthcare Act, which will cover every Californian with comprehensive, affordable health insurance and allow every Californian to choose his or her own physician.

At some time each year, at least one in five Californians does not have health insurance. As health insurance costs continue to skyrocket, employers are reducing coverage and dropping benefits altogether. Half of all bankruptcies in the United States are now related to medical costs and ¾ of those bankrupted families *had health insurance at the time they became ill or injured*. The simple truth is that average Californians can no longer rely on their health insurance when they become ill or injured.

The United States spends twice as much per person as every other industrialized country on health care, yet we are the only industrialized

D. AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS, AND REPORTS

* D.1 Recognition of Middle College High School as a 2009 California Distinguished School

Comment:

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jack O'Connell, recently announced that Middle College High School was one of among 125 high schools selected to receive the prestigious 2009 California distinguished School award.

The selected middle and high schools represent about 10.9 percent of California's nearly 2,400 middle and high schools. Of those, only 341 schools met the eligibility criteria based on their student achievement and were chosen from 170 school districts in 46 counties. An awards ceremony honoring the Distinguished Schools will be held Friday, May 29 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim. The Disneyland Resort is a major corporate sponsor of the event.

Recommendation: For Information Only

Fiscal Impact: None

* D.2 Grand Jury Report No. 0907

Comment:

A letter and a copy of Grand Jury Report No. 0907: "Retire Healthcare Benefits Leave County Taxpayers on the Hook – A New Approach is Required to Deal With Unsustainable Retiree Healthcare Benefits Provided to Most Contra Costa Governmental Employees," by the 2008-09 Contra Costa Grand Jury is provided. Staff will provide a brief report on this matter.

Academic Subcommittee
Bayside Parent Teacher Association
Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee
Community Budget Advisory Committee
Facilities Subcommittee
Ivy League Connection
Safety Committee
Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee

Public Employees Local 1 School Supervisors Association United Teachers of Richmond West Contra Costa Administrators Association

* D.5 In Memory of Members of the School Community

Comment:

The District would like to take ti

E. PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54950 et seq.)

* E.1 Superintendent's Report

* E.2 Request to Address the Board on Growing West County School Gardens

Comment:

Joanna Pace, with Growing West County School Gardens, would like to present a brief update on the group's activities for 2009.

Recommendation: For Information Only

Fiscal Impact: None

* E.3 Request to Address the Board on the Gooden Family Scholarship Fund Scholar Project Recipients

Comment:

Andrew Gooden, President of the Gooden Family Scholarship Fund, would like to present to the Board the eight students from the Class of 2009 who have completed the requirements for the GFSF Scholar Project and are now going to college.

Recommendation: For Information Only

Fiscal Impact: None

* E.4 WCCUSD Public Comment

Members of the public are invited to speak to the Board about any matter that is not otherwise on the agenda and is related to issues affecting public education in the WCCUSD. **Approximately 30 minutes will be allocated for this item.** If there are more requests to speak than can be heard within this time limit, "WCCUSD Public Comment" will continue after Item G. Individuals wishing to speak must submit a "WCCUSD Public Comment" form prior to the beginning of this item on the agenda. Depending on the number of persons who wish to speak, from one to three minutes will be allocated to each speaker at the discretion of the President of the Board in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible. The Board cannot dialogue on any issues brought before it by the public that have not been previously agendized, but may refer these to staff for response and/or placement on future agendas.

F. ACTION ITEMS

* F.1 Resolution No. 78-0809: Authorization to Eliminate Classified Positions and Layoff Classified Employees

Recommendation: Recommend Approval

Fiscal Impact: \$463,300 Related to school closure (included in savings already projected)

\$155,300 Food Service Fund

\$216,800 Tier III Flexibility (included in transfer)

\$159,800 Adult Education Fund/Tier III Flexibility (included in transfer)

\$282,500 General Fund & Maintenance

\$258,680 Special Education – reduces contribution needed from General Fund

Grand Total \$1,536,380

* F.2 K-3 Class Size Reduction Program (CSR)

Comment:

The 2009-10 Budget which was adopted by the State Legislature includes a major change in the K-3 Class Size Reduction Program (CSR). The new implementation language provides a window for alternative implementation of Class Size Reduction that still provides smaller class sizes than required by the Education Code, yet can save substantial money for cash strapped districts.

The Second Interim Report, financial statements as of January 31, 2009, indicates the district will be facing an estimated \$25.7 million deficit. This would render the district unable to meet the required reserve. Technically, this fact would cause the district to certify the financial statements as "negative". With the uncertainty surrounding the budget at that time we forged forward with a "qualified" statement. This was done with the knowledge that progress would need to be made to close the budget gap as we approached the Third Interim report and budget adoption for 2009-10.

A part of the solution for the severe revenue cuts imposed by the State has come imbedded in the same State budget. The State has made significant allowances for school boards to utilize restricted funding to backfill cuts (Tier III flexibility), and to modify the funding model of the K-3 Class Size Reduction program.

Due to the severity of fiscal issues facing the District, staff recommends the option with greatest savings.

Recommendation: Recommend Option Four

Fiscal Impact: Savings of \$4,000,000

* F.3 Contract for Commercial Real Estate and Consulting Services

Comment:

The Purchasing Department prepared a request for proposal (RFP) for Commercial Real Estate and Consulting Services to provide alternative land use plans for the District. RFP #0809-04 was advertised on February 20th and 24th in our local newspaper, West County Times. During the advertising period, the District mailed out the RFP package to five real estate firms. On March 11, 2009, the District received two responses to the RFP. The responses were from Cushman & Wakefield and Dutra-Cerro-Garden, Inc.

Agenda Item: A

5. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

- a. Superintendent/Dr. Bruce Harter
- b. Employee Organizations
 - UTR
 - Local One
 - School Supervisors Association
 - WCCAA
- c. Unrepresented Employees

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