

**West Contra Costa Unified School District  
Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting  
Richmond Convention Center Auditorium  
403 Convention Center Plaza  
February 11, 2009**

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Audrey Miles called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

**A.1 Pledge of Allegiance**

President Miles led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

**A.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures**

President Miles offered welcome and instructions to the public regarding the meeting.

**A.3 Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:** Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Audrey Miles, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond

**Staff Present:** André Bell, Executive Director Business Services; Pat Calvert, Director, Human Resources, Certificated; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Martin Coyne, Director Accounting/Audits; Susan Dunlap, English Learner Services Coordinator; Otilia Espinoza, Interpreter; Erin Fleming, Director Human Resources, Classified; Luis Freese, Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; David Johnston, Director of Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Supervisor; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Supervisor; Elmer Meredith, Electronics Technician; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superinten  
Onevoice Teis  
Thornton, Patricia Ponce, Alexandra Campbell-Jones, Abel Pineda, Linc  
Wasilchin, Ian Bader, Noemi Santos-Santiago, Christi Thomas, Rick Al

Superintendent Harter discussed keeping both Lake and Shannon on the closure list, and that if cities came forth with a commitment of funds, the Board could bring this back at the March 4 meeting.

Mr. Medrano asked for more information regarding support for Shannon from Pinole.

Mayor Horton clarified that Pinole has yet to meet and draw an agreement. She said the city council expressed interest and support although she could not provide an amount at this time. She asked what amount the district would be looking for.

Superintendent Harter indicated the District would be looking for \$300,000 for each school for two years in order to keep the schools open that are on the recommended list for 2009-2010.

Mayor Horton inquired about the contribution of only \$1.5 million by the city of Richmond.

President Miles clarified that the Richmond

**B.2 Temporary Relocation of Portola Middle School**

Bill Savidge presented a staff report on the two major options for temporary relocation of the Portola Middle School.

**Board Comment:**

President Miles asked about the possibility of re-evaluating the 1C standard requirements.

Mr. Savidge responded that staff could review the standards at any time under direction from the Board.

President Miles spoke about the importance of not impacting other bond projects.

Mr. Savidge commented on considering the overall scope – how projects are scoped out and configured.

Mr. Ramsey spoke about fairness and the fact that the 1C standard has been used in all District bond projects so far.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether the City of El Cerrito would be providing support for the project.

Ms. Miles indicated that Mayor Sandy Potter would be addressing the Board on this matter.

**Public Comment:**

Miné Ternar Kal, Kathleen Erwin, Joni Hiramoto, Karen Franklin, Matt Ariniega, Joanna Pace, Mike Peritz.

Sandy Potter, Mayor, City of El Cerrito, provided a summary of the many ways El Cerrito has supported the District and its operations not only within the city but also throughout the district, including improvements made to the Portola campus. She said the city supports the rebuilding of a middle school in El Cerrito and said that if the Board decides to

Mr. Medrano asked whether there was strong objection from the City of El Cerrito and the neighborhood to relocating the students to El Cerrito High School.

Mr. Savidge said there have been objections at the site committee meetings and from city council members.

Mr. Thurmond asked whether there might be a "hardship" exception.

Mr. Savidge said that he did not believe this situation qualified as an "emergency" under CEQA.

**MOTION: Mr. Medrano moved that the temporary location for Portola be at the El Cerrito High School site and that the portables there be used as a temporary campus until a new campus at Castro is built. Mr. Thurmond seconded.**

Mr. Ramsey said this was the most logical choice and one that he could support and defend even though he would not vote in favor of it because nothing regarding seismic data has changed in the past three years.

Mr. Thurmond asked to rest 0 10.0d t79c02.76 Tc0M401nm0.00Tj Tc0M456C4E2QA5(T4tola 1 Tf0 Tc 10.02 0 0 10EMC 10.0