

**West Contra Costa Unified School District
Minutes of the Board of Education Special Meeting
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
3400 McDonald Avenue
Richmond, CA 94805
May 11, 2009**

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Audrey Miles called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and led those in attendance in the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members Present: Madeline Kronenberg, Antonio Medrano, Audrey Miles, Charles Ramsey, Tony Thurmond (arrived 6:40 PM).

Staff Present: Pat Calvert, Director Certificated Personnel; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Erin Fleming, Director Human Resources; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent K-Adult; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Elmer Meredith, Electronics Technician; Leticia Oregon, Translator; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Phyllis Rosen, Legal Assistant.

Public Comment:

Pixie Hayward Schickele expressed sadness about laying off teachers who provide service to students in the district. She commented that the administrative law judge only acted on the layoff and not other issues that UTR has raised such as the decision about class size reduction.

Board Discussion:

Mr. Medrano said it pained him to have to layoff 124 teachers. He commented that he knows what a painful process this is, having been on the list himself when working for San Francisco Unified School District.

Mr. Ramsey said this was another difficult period of time not only in the district but also with other governmental entities that will be experiencing job losses. He spoke about this as an opportunity to rise above partisanship and bickering and to be resolute in approaching Sacramento.

President Miles said she and Ms. Kronenberg had layoffs in their districts. She said she is saddened by this decision but that there were no other options. She spoke about the May 19 election and possible additional funding losses.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about her experiences dealing with people who have been laid off and how sobering the process of separation is.

Mr. Thurmond indicated he would vote no, the same as on the initial vote.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Resolution 87-0809. Ms. Kronenberg seconded. Ms. Kronenberg, Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey, and President Miles voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

C. THE NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Lovonya DeJean Middle School – May 20, 2009

D. ADJOURNMENT

President Miles adjourned the meeting at 6:46 PM.

Motion vote count order: Yes-No-Abstain-Absent

BH:pr

<u>AAM</u> Approved 5-20-09
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