

West Contra Costa Unified School District  
Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting  
Lovonya DeJean Middle School  
3400 Macdonald Avenue  
Richmond, CA 94805

January 6, 2010

A. CLOSED SESSION

B. OPENING PROCEDURES

President Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:35 PM.

B.1 Pledge of Allegiance

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

B.2 Welcome and Meeting Procedures

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

B.3 Roll Call

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

Staff Present: Dois Avalos, Executive Director; Andy Bell, Senior Director Bond Finance; Martin Coyne, Director Accounting/Audits; Steve Collins, SELPA Director; Otilia Espinosa, Interpreter; Bill Fay, Associate Superintendent for Operations; Luis Freese, Executive Director Maintenance and Operations; Sheri Gamba, Associate Superintendent for Business Services; Wendell Greer, Associate Superintendent; Bruce Harter, Superintendent; Debra Haynie, Executive Secretary; David Johnston, Director General Services; Joyce Ma, Maintenance Manager; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Supervisor; Lyn Potter, Coordinator State & Federal Programs; Ramon Ramirez, Assistant Principal Adult Education; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer; Marin Trujillo, Coordinator Community Engagement

B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative Brandon Amargo, Middle College High School

Mr. Amargo spoke of activities and opportunities for students at Middle College High School located on the Contra Costa Community College campus.

B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel two students and suspend those expulsions or placement in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Motion: Mr. Medrano moved approval of the expulsion of two (2) students, suspending those expulsions for placement in the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Mr. Ramsey seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, and President Kronenberg voted yes, Mr. Thurmond voted no, with no abstentions. Motion carried 4-1-0-0.

B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption

Public Comment: None

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve the agenda.

C. BUSINESS ITEMS

C.1 Grants/Awards/Agreements

C.2 Acceptance of Donations

C.3 Approval of Fund-Raising Activities

C.4 Contracts with Employee Health and Welfare Providers

Resolution No. 610910: United Teachers of Richmond (Active)

C.5 Contracts with Employee Health and Welfare Providers

Resolution No. 390910 (REVISED): School Supervisors Association, Unrepresented Classified Management and Confidential Employees Retiring after June 30, 2010

Resolution No. 420910 (REVISED): Unrepresented Management Retiring Prior to July 1, 2010

Resolution No. 430910 (REVISED): Unrepresented Management Retiring After December 31, 2008 but before July 1, 2010

Resolution No. 440910 (REVISED): Public Employees Union, Local One Retiring Prior to July 1, 2010

Resolution No. 450910 (REVISED): Public Employees Union, Local One Retiring After June 30, 2009

Resolution No. 550910 (REVISED): United Teachers of Richmond Retiring Prior to January 1, 2007

Resolution No. 560910 (REVISED): United Teachers of Richmond Retiring Prior to July 1, 2010 BUT AFTER December 31, 2006

Resolution No. 570910 (REVISED): United Teachers of Richmond Retiring After June 30, 2010

Resolution No. 590910: Unrepresented Certificated Management Retiring after June 30, 2010

Resolution No. 600910: School Supervisors Association and Confidential Employees Retiring After July 1, 2010

Superintendent Harter reported a parenthetical correction to the language of item C.5 Contracts with Employee Health and Welfare Providers Resolution No. 6010.

C.6 Certificated Personnel Changes

C.7 Approve Job Description: Director of Facilities and Construction-

Board Comment:

President Kronenberg acknowledged the extraordinary job done by students and staff.

- D.3 Recognition of WCCUSD National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Teachers  
Ms. Rashidchi acknowledged recent NBPT Teacher Gay Geger-Lods, who provided background on the program and introduced Ellen DeCarlo and Claudia Velez for achieving certification as National Board Certified Teachers.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

President Kronenberg said she was excited to hear about teachers striving for excellence in their profession.

Mr. Ramsey offered congratulations and well wishes

Mr. Thurmond offered congratulations and highlighted how great District teachers are. He said he would like to hear about mentor strategies for other teachers

Ms. Rashidchi responded that these teachers are eagerly serving as mentors to others, assuming work and responsibility.

Mr. Medrano asked about the number of teachers who have completed National Board Certification. Ms. Geger-Lods responded that there are currently certified teachers.

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey

Public Comment:

Veronica Sanchez, Kim Honda, Antonia Jackson, Nardasha, Earleani Kennedy, Al Kirkman, Kristen Pursley, Lisa Burton, Ken Ryan

Board Comment:

Mr. Thurmond thanked the speakers for their compelling testimony and asked questions about the financial impact on Adult Education. Ms. Gamba responded that this item is an addition to the Special Reserve fund and will have a programmatic impact to the Adult Education program for this year.

Mr. Medrano asked for clarification of the funds and potential 2010 cuts for Adult Education. Ms. Gamba responded with clarification that this would require additional information brought to the Board for discussion at a future meeting.

Mr. Ramsey commented about Deferred Maintenance funds also being used for reserve funds. He expressed the need to sustain programs in this accounting procedure. He said that this is an appropriate use of funds.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke as an adult school teacher and about Tier III flexibility as well as the drastic reduction in state funding. She spoke of developing a different business model to support adult education in California and that no programs will be made with this decision.

Mr. Ramsey said he supports this action as it helps the District stay viable and does not jeopardize the District as a whole.

Mr. Thurmond spoke about the adult school program assisting the District in remaining solvent with no services reduced for 2009-0 school year. He asked whether this action would trigger an automatic action of some future reduction. Ms. Gamba clarified that separate action would be required to make additional reductions to Adult Education programs and services.

MOTION : Mr. Ramsey moved to approve the Interfund/Tier III Transfer. Ms. Miles seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Brandon Amargo (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

E.

Ms. Miles said she agreed with Mr. Ramsey in eliminating one option without vetting all options and having discussions with the community. She said she does not feel the option should be eliminated at this time, but that decisions need to provide opportunity for the community to participate in these decisions.  
Mr. Thurmond said he would like to know the rationale for the direction to proceed before revisiting a previous decision by the Board. He said he would like to use s

Mr. Thurmond asked whether to anticipate any significant change in support between the time of the October survey and a June or November election. Mr. Godbe responded that a twelve month period is acceptable in a general economy but can't assume that the current economic climate won't have a negative impact. Mr. Thurmond followed with questions about survey responses regarding use of funds for maintenance or construction. Mr. Godbe recommended a JMr.3 (14)13(o)-11( )JT.



Board Comment:

Ms. Miles asked questions about expectations. Greer responded that these recommendations be introduced to students, parents and included in student handbooks

Mr. Medrano asked about student behavior expectations and photo identification requirements. Mr. Greer responded for clarification.

Mr. Thurmond asked further questions about intermittent campus patrols. Ms. Greer responded that security perimeter checks would be an expectation at events

MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of the Safety Committee Recommendation. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Ms. Miles, Mr. Ramsey, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Brandon Amargo, and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and no absences. Motion carried 5-0-0.

F.9 Request for Proposal for Commercial Real Estate and Consulting

Mr. Fay provided information regarding possible alternatives for property income generation and potential lease alternatives in order to reduce vandalism to vacant buildings.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment:

Mr. Ramsey said his position remains that the District maintains surplus property for future use

Ms. Miles said she agreed that at this time the market does not bear selling property at a high value and would support leasing alternatives to generate income.

Mr. Medrano agreed with pursuing leasing opportunities and expressed c



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

BH:dh