

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

**February 10, 2010**

**A. CLOSED SESSION**

**B. OPENING PROCEDURES**

President Madeline Kronenberg called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM. The Board recessed into Closed Session. President Kronenberg called the Public Session to order at 6:49 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 welcomed the public to the meeting.

**B.3 Roll Call**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Audrey MilesSue Kahn, Principal Pinole Valley High School; Joe Mayes, Maintenance Manager; Ken McDaniel, Electronics Supervisor; Emily Millar, Director; Nia Rashidchi, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; Jessica Romeo, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; PH Legal Secretary; Bill Savidge, District Engineering Officer.

**B.4 Presentation of Student Board Representative Matthew Arciniega**

Mr. Arciniega, a student from El Cerrito High School, spoke about the newly formed Youth Commission on its first official meeting of February 9, 2010.

**B.5 Report/Ratification of Closed Session**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel thirteen (13) students and suspend those expulsions for placement in the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

**Motion: Mr. Medrano moved to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to expel thirteen (13) students and suspend those expulsions for placement in the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond and Ms. Miles absent. Motion carried 3-0-1-1.**

Superintendent Harter asked the Board to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve Resolution 72-0-1 Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated Employees, ratifying the non-reelection of nineteen (19) teachers.

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to ratify the vote taken in Closed Session to approve Resolution 72-0-1 to non-reelect nineteen (19) teachers. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Mr. Thurmond voting no and Ms. Miles absent. Motion carried 3-1-0-1.**

**B.6 Agenda Review and Adoption**

**Public Comment:** None

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Thurmond seconded. Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Student Representative Matthew Arciniega (advisory vote only) and President Kronenberg voted yes, with Ms. Miles absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**



then be brought back for ratification at a future meeting. *Staff is also holding a post-bid scope confirmation meeting with the apparent low bidder.*

**Recommendation:** Authorize staff to issue Notice of Award at the end of the bid protest period, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder

**Fiscal Impact:** \$278,000. Funded from the Measure J Bond, Fund 21.

**Board Comment:** Mr. Ramsey commented on the inclusion of all bidders in the précis. Mr. Fay responded.

- C.18 Kennedy High School Intercom Upgrade Project Award of Contract
- C.19 Richmond High School Fence and Gates Project Award of Contract
- C.20 Crespi Jr. High Windows and Doors Replacement Project Award of Contract
- C.22 Certificated Provisional Internship Permit (PIP) Request(s)
- C.23 Adoption of Resolution No. 73-0910 Replacement of Outdated Warrant
- C.24 Resolution No. 71-0910: Arts in Education Month – March 2010
- C.25 Resolution No. 70-0910: Womens' History Month – March 2010
- C.26 2009-

**Public Comment:** Father Ramiro Flores, Antonia Jackson, Tom Chin, Gail Louie, Dulce Rodriguez, Adrian Espindoh, Mimi-Yu, Ken Ryan, Rosie Iha, Maria Inchauspe, Robert Brower, Chatchai Phanphanit, Tammy Campbell, Maria Alegria, Karen Lang, Genoveva Calloway, David Whitenack, Sanjuana Rodriguez, Tad Toomay, Grace Murphy-Jenkins, Marilyn Jaquith, Rose Bright, Francie Kunaniec, Ada Chavez, Jovanka Beckles, Marge Essel, Monica Cervantes, Pat Miles, Judi Jung, Antelmo Contreras, Kelli Cochran-Barram, Eva Aguirre, Flor Castro, Amy Aldrich, Elizabeth Mojica, Jesus Valdin, Glenda Pawsey, Margarita Avila, Paola Mejia, Roberto Reyes, Kristen Pursley.

**Board Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey spoke about the need for a day long session to provide more detail prior to voting for a budget and how short term solutions can hurt in the long term. He said he cannot in good conscience repurpose the parcel tax.

Mr. Medrano said he applauds the community for coming out and speaking up. He spoke of the need to work together in light of difficult economic times, save what we can and raise more funds. He said he supports reduction of Adult Education, but not elimination.

Mr. Thurmond said that all the programs are important and that it is necessary to go a step further and look at every option to raise revenue. He spoke about advocating an oil extraction tax in California.

Ms. Kronenberg spoke about the pain in looking at a shrinking budget. She spoke of supporting the initiative to lower the threshold for passing a parcel tax to 55% to fund education in California.

Mr. Thurmond asked Ms. Gamba to specify which items would be cut in Adult Education, and clarify what is meant by the restructuring of alternative education to achieve the \$650,000 savings.

Ms. Gamba responded and indicated she would provide details in follow up discussions. Regarding alternative education, she is working with Mr. Greer and staff to put together a matrix of class size staffing and administrative staffing.

Mr. Thurmond asked for further clarification and Ms. Gamba responded.

Mr. Medrano inquired about the drop-out rates and bringing students back into the schools to increase ADA.

Mr. Greer responded.

Ms. Kronenberg said she believes staff is heading in the right direction and confirmed there will be additional meetings about the budget.

### **D.3 Standing Reports**

Jeanine Bishop, Parent Liaison for Special Education and Jeannette Lambert, Vice Chair of the Community Advisory Commission (CAC) and Resource Parent, spoke about the You Make a Difference Award Ceremony on March 11, at DeJean Middle School honoring individuals in our community who have gone above and beyond in service to students with special needs.

Cathy Garza, President of the Bayside Council of PTAs, spoke about upcoming events including the general meeting on February 22 at the Alvarado Campus to discuss the budget challenges. Superintendent Harter will be a guest speaker. She welcomed Mr. Thurmond who is now a liaison to Bayside PTA. She said that Bayside PTA is looking forward to working with the district to get a bond passed and noted that historically all the hill and flatland areas support the district.

Robert Studdiford reported on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee meeting of January 27. Eight of the ten members were present and approved three items: continuing to meet on a monthly basis, recommended changes to Administrative Regulation 7214.2 that sets up how the body meets, and the performance audit for 2009. The next meeting is February 24 at 6:00 PM.

Pixie Hayward Schickele, President of United Teachers of Richmond, said we all have to come together to make the public and Sacramento understand what lack of funds has done to our schools and our children. She invited everyone to join in a statewide demonstration on March 4 to send a message that the District cannot survive any more cuts. Two demonstrations will be sponsored by UTR in El Cerrito and Hercules at 6:30 AM and 3:30 PM. e wi</MCID 20(i)6rs oi</M

members and staff in a small informal setting to discuss budget issues. He welcomed new Board liaisons Antonio Medrano and Audrey Miles. He suggested a possible joint meeting of the CBAC and the Board.

Facilities Subcommittee. Mr. Medrano provided a report on the meeting of February 9. He reported that the subcommittee approved recommendations



**Board Comment:** None

**MOTION: Mr. Ramsey moved approval of Item F.2 Special Education Annual Service Plan / Special Education Annual Budget Plan. Mr. Medrano seconded. Mr. Medrano, Mr. Thurmond, Mr. Ramsey and President Kronenberg voted yes, with no abstentions and Ms. Miles absent. Motion carried 4-0-0-1.**

**F.3 Measure J Bond Program Budget Adjustments**

Mr. Fay introduced this item clarifying that on an annual basis the bond program is reviewed and adjusted for revenue that has either increased or decreased in project costs and additionally adjusted for new projects as they become voted on by the subcommittee through the full Board, asking for Board approval.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Ramsey said that he made a commitment for the lower pad and will probably vote for it, but that he still struggles with the decision.

Mr. Thurmond asked to hear from the consultants present and asked for a clear explanation of the risk involved at the lower pad location.

Mr. Magnussen, Geotechnical Consultant with Alan Kropp Associates, said that he has no concern at all that there is a stability concern on the lower pad with respect to the issues that Mr. Brower brought out.

Mr. Thurmond asked Mr. Magnussen directly whether he had no concern about fill related risk. Mr. Magnussen responded that is correct.

Mr. Thurmond asked Mr. Magnussen to characterize any risk of slide in this situation.

Mr. Magnussen said that with a setback zone there is a very low risk to anyone at the school.

Mr. Thurmond asked for clarification.

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**G. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**G.1 District Safety Initiatives**

Mr. Greer spoke of the November 4 Safety Meeting at DeJean Middle School following the October 24 incident at Richmond High School. He said that since that time, great strides have been made in improving the delivery of safety to students. He identified and provided highlights of the changes that have occurred.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Comment:**

President Kronenberg thanked Mr. Greer for the incredible amount of work done and said she is impressed by all of the efforts made.

**G.2 Charter Facilities Assignments – Proposition 39 Preliminary Offers to Richmond College Prep Schools (RCPS) and Leadership Public Schools, Inc. (LPS)**

Mr. Fay indicated that the preliminary offers to two charter school partners, Richmond College Prep and Leadership Public Schools, are to keep them